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Rabin: PLO arrests of Hamas are 'public relations'

JON IMMANUEL

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday accused the Palestinian Police of engaging in "public relations" efforts to apprehend the Hamas gunmen in Sunday's two attacks on Israelis in the Gaza Strip, Israel Radio reported.

Rabin allegedly made the statement in a meeting with members of the opposition National Religious Party.

Meanwhile, Col. Tawfik Jabber, security commander in the southern Gaza Strip, told Hamas activists near Khan Yunis that the police were serious in their efforts to stop attacks on Israelis within their jurisdiction, because they harmed peace talks.

On Tuesday night he told the family of a known Izzadin Kassam member that he was willing to "sacrifice five men" to capture him, Palestinian sources said.

"We were informed... that the [Palestinian] Authority, on orders from the president [Yasser Arafat], will act to ensure security, tranquility and quiet no matter what the consequences are," one Hamas activist who attended the meeting told Reuters.

Four of the 30-plus activists arrested in a roundup on Monday reportedly remained in custody yesterday and their release was expected soon. Hamas activists said they had no links with Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas.

Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, one of those reportedly arrested and released after seven hours, denied he had been arrested at all and described his "interrogation" as "a normal meeting to discuss Palestinian affairs," the daily *al-Quds* reported.

Palestinian Police sources said the raids Monday have given way to quiet intelligence gathering. Though Rabin's critical statements were unconfirmed, he appeared worried that his expectations after last September's Oslo accords have not been fulfilled.

He said then that Arafat would crack down on Hamas more ruthlessly than Israel had done.

A leaflet issued Tuesday by the tiny Islamic Jihad group warned of "escalation of military jihad" if arrested Hamas activists were not released.

So far, Hamas warnings have been transmitted only from its spokesmen abroad in Jordan, an indication that in Gaza itself Hamas wants to maintain bridges to the Palestinian Authority.

In Alexandria yesterday, Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath rejected criticism that Arafat was not doing enough to stop Hamas attacks on Israelis.

"You have been ruling for 27 years with iron and fire and you did not succeed in stopping these operations, so how are we going to stop them?" AP quoted Shaath as saying.

Meanwhile, the IDF arrested two days ago the brother of Jibril Rajoub, the Palestinian Authority's preventive security chief in Jericho. Islamic activists in Dura, near Hebron, reported.

Yasser ran a grocery store which was considered a meeting place for Hamas activists.

Suspect in Kissufim attacks arrested

ALON PINKAS

SECURITY forces yesterday arrested Hamas activist Khaled Salibi, suspected of being involved in the two attacks near Kissufim on Sunday. Salibi was apprehended at an IDF checkpoint near Kissufim.

Palestinian authorities asked that Salibi be handed over to them.

In a related development yesterday, it was learned that the IDF and the General Security Service are hunting for Ahi Ayash, identified as the No. 1 wanted Hamas activist, army sources said yesterday. There are about 20 others on the wanted list, the sources said. Ayash, who is believed to have been involved in both the murder of Zippora Sason earlier this year and the serious wounding of a soldier in the Meholah attack last month, is believed to be hiding in the Tulkarm-Jenin area.



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (left) meets yesterday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Alexandria. The two discussed the peace process for nearly two hours. (AP)

Mubarak says Egypt seeking closer relationship with Israel

DAVID MAKOVSKY

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak informed Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Alexandria yesterday that he wants to enhance ties with Israel.

With talks on Israeli-Jordanian cooperation taking shape, observers say Cairo wants to transform its 15-year chilly peace with Israel into a closer relationship.

According to officials traveling with Peres, Mubarak said he wanted to send two more Egyptian ministers to Israel before the end of the month. Egypt's oil minister visited here last week and was joined by working-level aides. Mubarak told Peres during their

two-hour meeting yesterday that the Egyptian science minister would arrive in Israel within the next few weeks to discuss academic exchanges between the two countries, thereby engaging one of the sectors most resistant to cooperation with Israel.

After the meeting, Peres went on to talks with a PLO delegation led by Nabil Shaath.

The Egyptian president also said he would encourage Egyptian editors to accompany Foreign Minister Amr Moussa on a two-day visit here before the end of the

month, Israeli officials indicated.

Mubarak expressed interest in setting up a four-member development fund involving Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and Palestinians, should the Palestinians agree. Egyptian officials have privately complained that Cairo might be bypassed, as international money pouring into the Middle East may only go to Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinians.

In another development yesterday, Peres said Syria had given the go-ahead for a group of American Jewish leaders to visit Damascus.

According to Peres, Assad's reported assent to the visit by Jewish leaders was just one sign of the "positive atmosphere" between Israel and Syria, but he added there was still no breakthrough in efforts to bring the two sides to the negotiating table.

It is known that two dovish American Jewish groups, American Friends of Peace Now and Project Nishma, visited Syria this year. Two American Jews, Robert Lifton and Henry Seigman, are now visiting in Damascus as part of a delegation of the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations.

Israel may purchase Iraqi oil via Jordan

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL has reached a tentative agreement whereby Jordan will sell Israel cheap Iraqi oil. Labor Party ministers were informed by Energy Minister Moshe Shahal last night, according to sources.

Should the deal go through,

it would apparently be a violation of international sanctions that the UN imposed on Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

Shahal was not available for comment or confirmation.

Sources say the energy minister also told his colleagues last night that Israel and Jordan reached an agreement on linking electricity grids in the Akaba-Eilat area in a bid to save money during peak hours.

Shahal said the cost of the hook-up to Israel would be \$940,000, and it would cost Jordan only a fraction of that price, but both sides would save money over time.

Barak meets with key US defense figures

Jerusalem Post Staff

CHIEF of the General Staff Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak yesterday discussed cooperative efforts in the fight against international terrorism with top US administration and military leaders.

Barak arrived in Washington just a few days after Congress passed, virtually without opposition, the annual joint military-economic aid package of \$3 billion.

While so far the US has allotted only small sums for joint action against terrorism, the American consciousness of the threat of terrorism has probably never been

higher. Security measures have recently been toughened at many US airports, particularly those providing service to Israel. The Civil Aviation Authority said it is in close contact with intelligence agencies.

Barak yesterday held a series of meetings with Defense Secretary William Perry, National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Shalikashvili and his predecessor, Colin Powell.

At a three-hour meeting with Perry, Lake, and Shalikashvili, Barak stressed that it is impossible to speak about symmetry between Israel and Syria - not with regard to demilitarized zones, security measures, or size of forces. The Americans understand what such arrangements entail, Barak said after the meeting.

Sources say Barak will not deal directly with the issue of negotiations with Syria, but rather in the framework of discussions on Israel's security needs in the Middle East in an era of peace.

Barak is expected to have ready answers for an American question as to what Israel needs to preserve its strategic advantage. This will have to take into account the threats from Iran and Iraq, the introduction of North Korean weaponry into the region (including long-range missiles), the recent Syrian arms purchases from Russia, the rehabilitation of the Jordanian Army, and the continuing acquisition of sophisticated arms by the Gulf states.

Peres, Shaath agree on release of 243 prisoners

Sides agree on 'necessary measures' against terrorism

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

ISRAEL is to release 243 Palestinian prisoners shortly. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath agreed yesterday at talks in Alexandria.

The move comes just two days after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel would not even discuss the release of Palestinian prisoners unless the Fatah Hawks stop killing suspected collaborators. Rabin said 11 such suspects have been killed in the Jericho area during the last two weeks.

However, officials in the Prime Minister's Office insist that this does not constitute a contradiction, because the release of the 243 prisoners was already agreed upon previously. They insist no new releases are forthcoming.

The sides were expected to condemn terrorism in a joint statement to be issued late last night. However, sources say the Palestinians were reluctant to accept Peres's call for an all-out struggle against violent opponents of peace with Israel.

"We agreed on taking the necessary measures to reduce terror," Peres said after the meeting.

During yesterday's talks, Peres and Shaath also agreed that 400 temporary international civilian observers would be deployed in Gaza. A temporary presence in Gaza - like the Temporary International Presence in Hebron, which just pulled out at the conclusion of its mandate - is called for as part of the Israel-PLO accords of last September.

Israeli officials said the following countries would be taking part: Australia, Canada, Norway, Turkey, Finland, plus representatives from the European Union. The countries would pay for the deployment of the observers, whose task will be jointly defined by Israelis and Palestinians.

The two sides also agreed Israel will transfer control of education of Palestinians in the territories to the PLO before the school year begins September 1. This will be the first time Israel is transferring such control beyond the autonomous areas.

Four other civilian areas are expected to be transferred to Palestinians soon, but this awaits the approval of donors from 34 countries to provide interim assistance.

over the next half year.

Israeli officials say the international community will agree to provide \$30 million-\$40m, in aid, which is short of the approximately \$50m. that Israel said is needed over the next half year. A meeting of the donors to finalize the arrangement is planned from September 7 to 9 in Paris.

Another agreement reached yesterday in the Peres-Shaath meeting was a "safe passage" road arrangement that is supposed to link Gaza and Jericho, as called for in the Oslo accord.

Peres and Shaath agreed that twice-weekly convoys would escort Palestinians who want to visit back and forth. Palestinian policemen who want to visit may not travel with their weapons. However, Palestinians who have licenses to work inside Israel are free to travel between Gaza and Jericho as often as they wish, officials say.

The two leaders also agreed to hold regular meetings to discuss issues as they arise.

Peres said Transportation Minister Yisrael Kessar would go on Thursday to Rafiah, the crossing point between Egypt and the self-rule area of Gaza, "with a supreme effort to reduce the waiting time [of Palestinians] from six hours to one or one-and-a-half, so they can move freely." Palestinians complain the limited autonomy deal has done little to change time-consuming procedures at crossing points.

Asked about the status of Palestinian workers, who complain they cannot find work in Israel, Peres said his delegation suggested that Israeli businesses go over to them in Gaza in the form of joint ventures.

"On their [the Palestinian] side, I think the most important problem is the economic story, and we have to contribute to improve the economic situation in Gaza and Jericho," Peres said.

He said the two sides discussed other economic issues, such as building a hotel on the northern shore of the Dead Sea.

Shaath said the delegations had made progress and "discussed most of our problems that have been standing in the way of making this peace a successful peace."

The two sides had also decided to make a joint appeal for international donations to Palestinian authorities to help speed up their move to early empowerment or greater control in the rest of the territories.

Man kills girlfriend, attempts suicide

AMIR ROZENBLIT

A PRISONS Service warden serving in Beersheba shot and killed his girlfriend yesterday and then tried to commit suicide. He is in critical condition at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital.

Pinhas Abukasis had been living with his girlfriend, Mazal Zana, in the Sapir Center in the Arava for the past year. He had worked for the past seven years for the Prisons Service at Beersheba Prison, most recently as a watch officer.

At about 4 p.m. yesterday the couple quarreled and Abukasis pulled out a gun and shot Zana to death. He then shot himself in the head.

A year ago, Abukasis divorced his wife, who moved with their children to Ma'aleh Adumim. He then started living with Zana. His ex-wife had complained to police about her husband's violent behavior towards her.

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Congratulates **SARA PACHTER**
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Tourism Minister Uzi Baram (right) presents his Jordanian counterpart Mohammed Adwan with a picture of the Dome of the Rock at the Dead Sea Moriah Hotel yesterday. (AP)

Baram, Jordanian minister agree to promote tourism

THE fact that Tourism Minister Uzi Baram met with his Jordanian counterpart Mohammed Adwan on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea yesterday proved to be the main accomplishment of their meeting, according to Adwan.

Adwan noted after their meeting at the Moriah Dead Sea Hotel that it was the first visit to Israel by a Jordanian of cabinet rank.

On more concrete matters, the two ministers decided to promote packages to Israel and Jordan in the US, which will include visits to Amman, Petra, Akaba, Eilat, Jerusalem, Tiberias, and Bethlehem.

Baram said he saw in these tours a combination of visits to holy sites and tourist areas which should find considerable demand in the US. The two agreed that the first presentation of this package is to be at the annual convention of the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), which is to take place in Lisbon in November.

Baram said he has already contacted Israel's tourist officials in New York and asked them to contact Jordanian tourism representatives to begin working on the program. The first groups to be approached are Christian pilgrims and Jewish and Arab Americans. Baram also suggested promoting similar packages in Europe, but Adwan said he preferred waiting to see how the program succeeded in the US.

The two were also present at a presentation by Jordanian travel experts for a group of Israeli travel agents, who deal with tourists visiting Jordan. It was decided that the Israel-

is should hold a similar presentation for Jordanian agents dealing with tourism to Israel.

"We believe that with peace blooming all the energies of both peoples will be utilized for construction, development and cooperation," Adwan told reporters following the meeting.

Joint reservoir plan proposed

BATSHEVA TSUR

The Agriculture Ministry has drawn up plans to cooperate with Jordan in the setting up of reservoirs of the type created by the JNF in Israel.

The plans are being presented to the Jordanians at the ongoing water talks at the Dead Sea.

The Israeli proposal is to copy the type of reservoirs established by the JNF in the Beit She'an Valley that utilize run-off water from springs in the area and rainwater which would otherwise be lost, a JNF spokesman said yesterday.

The reservoirs, constructed in cooperation with the ministry and the Beit She'an Regional Council, have in the last three years alone doubled the quantity of water available for irrigation in the area.

"We must put an end to the bickering over the limited quantities of water available in the region and concentrate our efforts on increasing the availability of water for the benefit of the Israelis, Jordanians and Palesti-

countries as well. He planned to hold more meetings in Amman next month.

In another matter, the Palestinian Authority's Economy Minister Ahmed Oreia said the agreement signed Tuesday between Israel and Jordan that will allow the Hashemite kingdom to export \$30 million worth of goods and commodities to the territories was out of place.

"Israel has no right to make a trade agreement that deals with the Palestinian lands with another party," Oreia, also known as Abu Ala, told Israel Radio. "We plan to deal with this matter with our Jordanian brothers."

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry said yesterday that for the present, Israelis who also hold foreign passports would not be allowed to cross the border into Jordan. Interior Ministry spokeswoman Tova Elinson said that Prime Minister Rabin, who also holds the Interior Ministry portfolio, has not yet signed the order eliminating Jordan from the list of enemy states, whose entry is forbidden to Israelis.

"Until the interior minister signs the order, we cannot allow Israelis to cross into Jordan," Elinson said.

She added that the ministry has made individual exceptions in the order, would continue to do so.

Anat Levinthal, who is in charge of Jordan for Galilee Tours, said that her agency tells would-be visitors to Jordan they must have an exit permit from Israel before applying for a Jordanian visa.

Rabbi Avi Weiss protests against church at Auschwitz

DENNIS EISENBERG and news agencies

NEW YORK Rabbi Avi Weiss and nine followers protested yesterday against the presence of a Roman Catholic church and a cross at Auschwitz.

Despite the hostility, curses and physical threats by scores of Poles from surrounding villages, Weiss and his followers arrived at the church shortly before noon and spent about 30 minutes reading a statement and praying.

"We come to Poland to peacefully raise the voice of moral conscience against the continued presence of a cross near the former convent at Auschwitz and a church at Birkenau," Weiss read in the statement.

The church was built in the building where the Nazi commandant of Birkenau had his headquarters. "A cross or church on Auschwitz cemetery grounds, largest Jewish cemetery in the world, is as inappropriate as a Jewish star or a synagogue on a Catholic cemetery," Weiss said, and "desecrates the memory of those who perished."

Weiss argues the church and the cross violate the 1987 Geneva agreement signed by 18 Roman Catholic and Jewish officials which says calls for no permanent Catholic place of worship on the site of the camp.

From the church, the group marched about five kilometers to pray by a former convent building near Auschwitz, where a cross still remains after the convent was moved last year on Pope John Paul II's order.

In 1989 Weiss vehemently protested the presence of the Carmelite nuns' convent.

"I was deeply concerned about the safety of our group, for when we demonstrated against the Carmelite nuns, we were attacked and beaten



Rabbi Avi Weiss (AP)

up by local workers, Weiss said. "Today, the Polish police turned out in force to control the hostile crowds," he said. "The onlookers hurled abuse at us, and it looked like it was getting ugly when the police intervened. They dragged away the more violent of the Polish bystanders."

Weiss said the crosses give people the wrong message about the church's role in the Holocaust.

"In 50 years, people seeing the crosses will think that the Catholic Church tried to save the Jews," Weiss said. "This is blatant Holocaust revisionism. The Vatican turned a blind eye to the slaughter of the Jews."

Norway's FM to visit Arafat in Gaza

NORWEGIAN Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal leaves for the Middle East today to mark the first anniversary of the Israel-PLO draft accord secretly brokered in Norway. The Foreign Ministry said Godal

plans meetings with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in the Gaza Strip. He will meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Jerusalem during the two-day visit. AP

Machpela Cave may open before Rosh Hashana

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Machpela Cave may open to both Jewish and Moslem worshipers before Rosh Hashana, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told MKs of the National Religious Party and Shas at separate meetings yesterday.

Rabin will make the decision by next week, providing that all arrangements for separating Jews from Moslems are completed by the authorities involved.

The cave has been closed since the Hebron Massacre on February 25. The NRP leaders, who asked Rabin to speed up the cave's opening in time for prayers on the High Holy Days, reported afterwards that they did not bring up the more burning issues troubling the party.

These included its institutions' financial plight and Shas leader Arye Deri's taking over control of religious councils - traditionally NRP strong-

holds - throughout the country.

NRP Chairman Zevulun Hammer said afterwards that the topic of entering the coalition did not come up at all, "and as long as the government is acting the way it is concerning the PLO, the NRP remains in the opposition."

We are not partners to this government, neither from the inside or from outside, and we're getting ready to deal with increasing financial plight. All our religious and educational institutions are in trouble, but this is the right way to serve our constituents, who oppose the agreement with the PLO."

Asked by the NRP leaders to release Jewish administrative prisoners for the High Holy Days, Rabin said

he would think about it, but did not give a conclusive answer.

The NRP told Rabin that the agreement with the PLO was not working out and asked for clarifications about the negotiations. Rabin said the final arrangement in Judea and Samaria will be completely different from the Gaza and Jericho agreement.

Rabin told the NRP leaders that if the Machpela Cave opens up, it will be for both Jews and Moslems. He said he leans toward separating the prayer time of Jews and Moslems in the cave, rather than building walls separating the prayer halls, MK Shaul Yashalon said after the meeting.

Alon Pinkas adds: The closing of the cave, rearranging security procedures and reopening it has already cost the army more than NIS 40 million, army sources said.

Bomb threats to LA Jewish targets

TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES

A SUSPICIOUS-looking metal box was exploded by police Tuesday afternoon outside the Simon Wiesenthal Center, while at the same time a bomb threat forced evacuation of the University of Judaism.

The metal box was discovered by private security guards shortly after noon on the pedestal of a sculpture near the entrance to the Wiesenthal Center. At about the same time, police received an anonymous phone call that a bomb would explode at the center.

Police, the FBI and other law enforcement personnel responded immediately, cordoning off a stretch of Pico Blvd. and ordering the evacuation of several hundred people working at the center or visiting the adjoining Museum of Tolerance, said Dr.

Gerald Margolis, director of the center and museum.

The metal box was detonated by remote control about 5 p.m., but police would not say whether it contained any explosive material, pending laboratory tests. The all clear was given around 7 p.m.

At the University of Judaism, a bomb threat was phoned into the switchboard around 12:30 p.m. An immediate evacuation was ordered of about 200 people, including the university staff and participants in an Elder Hostel program, said university spokeswoman Mimi Sells.

After two suspicious objects were spotted in the library and another part

of the main building, the access road to the university was blocked off. The road block also cut access to and from Stephen S. Wise Temple, whose staff remained on the job.

After the suspicious objects were identified, the alarm was called off around 3:15 p.m.

The University of Judaism and the Wiesenthal Center also received bomb threats three weeks ago, as did the Israeli Consulate-General.

In advance of the High Holy Days, the Board of Rabbis has sent a security manual, prepared by the Anti-Defamation League, to 150 rabbis and synagogues in Southern California. Security at the Jewish community building has been tightened to its highest level ever, said Dr. Steven Windmiller, director of the Jewish Community Relations Committee.

Argentina won't cut ties with Iran without proof

BUENOS AIRES - Argentinean Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella said yesterday that Argentina will not break relations with Iran unless it has proof that Iran was responsible for a Buenos Aires bombing that killed 95

people.

Argentina and Iran withdrew their ambassadors from one another's countries for consultations after the July 18 bombing outside a Jewish community center in the capital.

"For now we have only called the ambassador to inform us," Di Tella said yesterday. He said Argentina would not break relations until "there exists conclusive evidence" that Iran was involved.

Assad replaces key military commander

NICOSIA (AP) - President Hafez Assad of Syria has removed the commander of his army's Special Forces for "disciplinary reasons," well-placed sources said yesterday.

Some sources said Brig.-Gen. Ali Haidar has been placed under house arrest. Others said his whereabouts were unknown.

Compass, a Washington-based news agency that specializes in Middle Eastern affairs, reported Tuesday that Haidar was replaced as commander of the Special Forces by Brig.-Gen. Ali Habib.

Haidar commanded the 10,000-member Syrian contingent of the U.S.-led coalition that ousted Iraq from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf War.

Compass said Haidar was "under investigation" but did not say for what.

Other sources, however, said

Washington had long suspected Haidar and some of his officers were involved in drug trafficking operations in Lebanon and had links to anti-Western radical groups which operated in Lebanon during the 1975-90 civil war.

One source said Assad was trying to purge the military of officers who might not be amenable to a peace agreement with Israel.

It was not clear when exactly Haidar was replaced. However, a source in an Arab capital said Haidar had been under investigation since August 3.

"He committed a military disciplinary offense for which he has been punished," the source added.

There was no official word on the matter from Damascus, which seldom reports on changes in the military or its security apparatus.

Golan settlers intensify campaign to win support

DAVID RUDGE

THE Golan Heights Settlers Committee is intensifying its efforts to win the support of the public in its fight to retain Israeli sovereignty over the region.

The propaganda film currently being screened at 116 cinemas throughout the country during advertisement breaks has proved so successful that the committee intends to put it on show at a further 120 picture houses.

"We have received tremendous feedback and support from people who have seen the broadcast which stars the prime minister as the main actor, narrator and scriptwriter," said settlers committee spokesman Uzi Heimer.

The film concentrates on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's speech given prior to the last Knesset elections in which he maintains that withdrawing from the Golan would be tantamount to forsaking Israel's security.

Meanwhile, Golan Regional Council chairman Yehuda Wolman described comments to the press on Tuesday by Tourism Minister Uzi Baram as "nonsense."

Baram maintained that in view of the pending renewal of peace talks with Syria his ministry would not encourage support investment in the development of new tourism projects on the Golan.

Wolman said, however, that during Baram's visit to the Golan on Tuesday afternoon, the minister had pledged millions of shekels for new tourism development projects - in direct contradiction of his earlier comments to the media.

These included the establishment of the "Volcani Park" tourism project near kibbutz Merom Golan, which is aimed at displaying the volcanic nature of the region to the public - at a cost of over NIS 3 million.

NEWS IN BRIEF

King Hussein says no Jerusalem visit soon
It's too early to talk about a visit to Jerusalem, King Hussein told Radio Monte Carlo yesterday, adding there will be no such visit in the near future.

He said that the results of the negotiations between Israel and Jordan have been encouraging, the discussions in all spheres have taken place in a positive atmosphere, citing especially the talks on borders and water.

IDF soldiers kill infiltrator near Rafiah
IDF soldiers killed Iyad Hamed Abu Ghanem, 17, a resident of Rafiah, when he tried to infiltrate the border in the Rafiah area, the IDF spokeswoman said yesterday.

"The youth tried to infiltrate the road on the Israel-Egypt border, in the area of the Palestinian Authority in Rafiah," the spokeswoman said. "An army observation force saw him and when they tried to halt him they shot him dead."

She said Palestinian and Israeli security officials were called to the site of the incident and were jointly investigating it.

NIS 400,000 bail for lawyer in tax fraud case

A third lawyer suspected of involvement in an apartment-building scam to defraud tax authorities out of millions of dollars was arrested yesterday. The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court released Mordechai Shapira - the son of the chief suspect in the case, lawyer Binyamin Shapira - on NIS 400,000 bail and barred from leaving the country.

The court was told that Shapira, who works in his father's real estate company in Herzliya, allegedly fabricated a contract stating he had bought an apartment on the land bought by his father and another man, Dan Dorman, as part of the tax scam. Both Dorman and Binyamin Shapira were released on NIS 750,000 bail each this week.

Winning cards
In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the King of spades, seven of hearts, seven of diamonds and jack of clubs.

To Professor Shmuel Rosenman
Chairman of the Center for the Study of Jewish Heroism - March of the Living
We all share your deep sorrow on the passing of your dear mother

ZEHAVAH ROSENMAN

The funeral will take place today, Thursday 11 Elul 5754 (18.8.94), at 4:30 p.m. at Moshav Hemed.

Shiva at the deceased's home at Moshav Hemed.

The management and staff
The Center for the Study of Jewish Heroism

Tiyul-Hike

Join Livnot U'Lehbanot for a day-long hike to the ancient Judean Hills.

When: Monday, August 22nd 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
What: Have fun and meet new people. Hike, swim, people and learn about the history of the area.
Where: Men and women age 21-30 with little Jewish background who are interested in experiencing Livnot U'Lehbanot. To build and to be built for a day.
Where: Pick up in the Old City at 8:00 a.m.
How: Get to the meeting place by 12:00 p.m.
Sunday August 21st, call 02-793-4912
How much: NIS 25 includes bus, meals and food.



Court asks Olmert to explain lack of religious council list

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert 45 days to explain his failure to present a list of candidates for the Jerusalem religious council, which the petitioners charge is aimed at keeping Reform and Conservative rabbis off the panel.

The show-cause order, issued by Justice Dalia Dorner, was in response to a petition by City Councilwoman Anat Hoffman (Meretz) and her faction's candidates to serve on the religious council, Conservative Rabbi Ehud Bandel and Reform Rabbi Nahama Kelmman-Ezrahi. Olmert has not prepared the city's list of candidates for the council, despite several requests from Meretz and other factions and two requests from the Religious Affairs Ministry.

By law, the religious affairs minister is obligated to appoint a new religious council within six months of every municipal election. In practice, however, Jerusalem has not had a new religious council for 10 years.

The city council has the right to

appoint 45 percent of the religious council's members, with the minister appointing another 45 percent and the local rabbinate appointing 10 percent. Each faction in the city council has the right to appoint a certain number of the city's candidates, according to its strength in the council. Thus Meretz, which has four seats on the 31-member Jerusalem city council, has the right to appoint two members to the religious council.

"However, [Olmert] has not revealed any interest in presenting a list of candidates from the city, preferring to sit with his hands folded," the petition said. He is thereby ignoring his legal obligation, in order to avoid the appointment of Conservative and Reform rabbis to the council, the petition charged.

Olmert is also ignoring the will of the legislature, which determined that the religious council should be changed after every election, and the

will of the voter, which gave Meretz four seats on the city council, the petition said.

Meretz had no seats on the city council when the current religious council was appointed 10 years ago.

The law does provide that if a city council ignores two letters from the Religious Affairs Ministry, the religious affairs minister may appoint the city's quota of candidates himself. If Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Rabin chooses to exercise this right, the petition said, he should include Meretz's two candidates in his list.

The petition also charged that it is imperative to replace the religious council because of financial irregularities revealed by the last city comptroller's report. According to this report, the city gave the religious council NIS 7.1 million that hadn't been budgeted for, the council's budgets were not approved by the finance and religious affairs ministers, and the council failed to send regular financial statements to the religious affairs minister.

Hadassah doctors declare sanctions

JUDY SIEGEL

THE 700 physicians at the two Hadassah-University Hospitals in Jerusalem will adopt a reduced schedule for 24 hours on Sunday at 7 a.m.

The sanctions have been called to protest management's freeze on job slots - doctors who leave will not be replaced. This is the first time Hadassah doctors have declared sanctions independently, although they have previously participated in nationwide strikes.

The sanctions will close outpatient clinics and diagnostic institutes and allow only emergency surgery. The presence of doctors on the wards will be significantly reduced, as on Shabbat.

The joint doctors union for the Ein Kerem and Mt. Scopus hospitals said hospital occupancy "reaches 100 percent, [so] any job slot that is not filled puts a heavy burden on those who remain. We can't continue to work like a spring pulled as far as it can go. Obviously, as doctors, there is a limit how far we can go with sanctions, but we will do what we can to pressure management," a union spokesman said.

The union sent telegrams to Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) director-general Samuel Pincus and to Hadassah national president Deborah Kaplan in New York.

Cuts in hospital budgets had initially been planned earlier this year, but none were announced until recently.

HMO management, in reaction to the doctors' announcement, said the sanctions were "the wrong act at the wrong time. The doctors received salary increases of more than 50 percent recently, and even before that some of them were very well paid."

Hadassah spokesman Yossi Shoval added that HMO is in the middle of working out a budget plan to reduce a deficit of millions of dollars.

"All staffers must join in this task," Shoval said. "The freeze involves 250 to 300 job slots."

Green light given for tourism complex in eastern Jerusalem

BILL HUTMAN

A LEADING supporter of the Ateret Cohanim settlement group has been given the go-ahead from the Jerusalem Municipality to develop a tourism complex in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem.

Mayor Ehud Olmert and Deputy Mayor for Building and Planning Uri Lupolianski confirmed yesterday that the supporter, Irving Moskowitz, was moving ahead on such a project with city approval.

The project includes renovating the Shepherd Hotel, now used as a Border Police headquarters but soon set to be turned back to Moskowitz, the hotel's owner.

Moskowitz, one of the major American-Jewish donors to Ateret Cohanim, has leased the hotel to the Border Police since the mid-1980s. Moskowitz also owns land adjoining

the hotel and is negotiating with the Israel Lands Administration to include other nearby property in the project, according to Lupolianski.

He said the project would include turning the Shepherd into a five-star hotel with a swimming pool, plus construction of stores, restaurants, and other tourist attractions.

Olmert and Lupolianski yesterday accompanied Likud MK Ariel Sharon to several development projects in eastern Jerusalem. Matti Dan, a leading official with Ateret Cohanim, joined them for part of the tour.

The Sheikh Jarrah site was not included as one of the stops, although the city leaders spoke of it with Sharon.

"We are talking about an individual who has a plan to develop a specific area, which will be for the good of Jerusalem," Olmert told reporters.

During the tour Olmert also reiterated his support for the construction of a new yeshiva and dormitories adjoining the Beit Orot Yeshiva on the Mount of Olives, one of the stops on the tour.

He also said the city would follow through on the past city administration's plan to build a Jewish housing complex in the Ras Al-Amud neighborhood, where the city leaders and Sharon also visited.

The first stop on the tour was the Shu'afat Ridge haredi neighborhood, where the first homes are slated to be completed in May.

Rabies warning on dogs from SOS

LIAT COLLINS

THE veterinary services has issued a warning to anyone who adopted a dog via the SOS Animals group this month to contact their nearest office following the death of a dog who was found to have rabies.

Chief veterinarian Arnon Shimshoni said the dog was one of those saved from an army base in the South, where the commanding officer had ordered that 20 strays be shot.

SOS Animals volunteers persuaded the officer instead to transport the dogs to the group's Herzliya office. SOS volunteer Sigal Weiss said, however, the dead dog had arrived from a different site in the South and was held separately.

She denied that some of the dogs were given out for adoption before the necessary quarantine period was over.

Adopting families should call either the local veterinary service, the national service at 03-968 1614 (work hours) or the duty vet at the Veterinary Institute 03-968 1609 (evening/night).

"There is a very real problem with dogs taken in off the streets," Shimshoni said. "The regulations demand that such a dog be immediately vaccinated and kept in quarantine under observation for two months. Even 10 days is not enough, as it is only indicative of the final stages of the disease. Incubation can take much longer."

He added that people who wished to adopt a pet should only do so through "one of the serious animal welfare organizations."

Weiss noted that the rabid dog died of an intestinal blockage and the rabies was only discovered during an autopsy, paid for by the group, "to be on the safe side."

Meanwhile, a dog from Ma'aleh Adumim died from rabies yesterday at the city pound. The dog was taken to a private vet by its owners and the doctor sent it for observation.

Anyone who come into contact with the animal should contact the Jerusalem district health office at 02-314811 or the Ma'aleh Adumim veterinary service at 02-354585.

The Jerusalem veterinary services is warning dog owners to vaccinate their pets against rabies and not allow them to go unaccompanied. Stray dogs in Jerusalem are being killed.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Electricity prices up 4.5%
Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Energy Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday signed an order raising electricity rates by 4.5 percent.

The increase in electricity prices is due to inflation and a 3.5% rise in the cost of inputs for electricity production. The last price rise was in May.

Saudis search Jordanian cargoes
Saudi customs inspectors in Jeddah are searching all cargo destined for Akaba, reports the Jordanian daily Al-Aswak. Other sources have confirmed the information to The Jerusalem Post.

According to Jordanian insurance companies, the searches, begun without warning on August 10, are thorough, slow, and rough. Inspectors often damage or destroy cargo on Jordanian ships and deliberately delay cargo for Jordan originating in Jeddah, sometimes preventing it from being loaded.

Shipping sources are puzzled by the Saudi move. They believe ships going to Akaba may have to skip Jeddah, and that cargo for Jordan originating in the West will have to be unloaded in Lebanese and Syrian ports.

Three hurt in Rishon blaze
Two children and a policeman suffered injuries from smoke inhalation yesterday morning when a fire broke out in an eight-story apartment building in Rishon LeZion.

Firefighters managed to evacuate all of residents of the building, which was badly damaged in the blaze. Investigators say the fire apparently started in the stairwell from an electrical short circuit.

Two children, seven and 10, were overcome by smoke and rescued via crane, while two others were also carried from the building.

Two held for stealing disabled man's cash
Police yesterday arrested a 24-year-old woman from Beersheba and a male youth, 17, from Tel Aviv on suspicion of stealing NIS 1,000 in cash from a disabled man at a bank cash machine in Tel Aviv.

The theft occurred when a 31-year-old handicapped Jerusalem man gave a ride to the two in downtown Tel Aviv. The man stopped his car near an automatic teller and asked them to withdraw money for him, since it was difficult for him to move about. He gave them his credit card and its secret number.

The two took the money and fled in a taxi. The man chased them, alerting police with his car phone.

Histadrut sponsors back-to-school hotline
In preparation for the beginning of the new school year, the Histadrut will operate a hot line next Monday, August 22, for information on rights and obligations, textbook prices, health issues, excursions, and other topics. The following Tel Aviv (03) numbers will answer between 4:30 and 7 p.m.: 6968369; 6963582; 6963217; 5460463; 6958655; and 6917063.

Kessar holds firm on CIS flight standards
Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar said yesterday he would forbid charter flights from the former Soviet Union to land in Israel if their planes did not fulfill Israeli and international safety standards.

At a meeting with Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Aliya Department, Kessar said there were more than 200 airlines operating in Russia and competition often caused them to cut corners when it came to safety. There are presently scheduled flights by El Al, Trans Aero and Aeroflot between Tel Aviv and Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as charter flights to and from the Black Sea area.

Bathing banned at polluted beaches
Bathing has been prohibited by the health authorities at a number of beaches and vacation spots until further notice due to pollution: Ein Avdat, the Jordan River near Metzad Ateret, part of the Ga'aton spring, Nahariya Beach where it meets Nahal Ga'aton, Ashkelon's national park beach, Poleg beach in Netanya and the Trumpeldor beach in Tel Aviv.

Upper Galilee to get Radio One, Two via new transmitter

LIAT COLLINS

THE news in English and Hamitzer radio-quizzes, delights which have so far escaped residents of Upper Galilee and the Galilee panhandle, will no longer be beyond their reach.

Following a decision taken by Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday, residents of these areas will be able to hear Radio One and Radio Two.

The decision was made during discussions with ministry, Bezeq and Israel Broadcasting Authority officials on public broadcasts.

Aloni ordered the "Sha'ar Yeshuv" transmitter in the north to begin operations from today.

The transmitter was established three years ago, at a cost of NIS 3.5 million, but it operated only for a few days because of a financial dispute between the IBA and Bezeq.

The transmitter will enable residents of upper, eastern and central Galilee, the Golan Heights and Kiryat Shmona to receive broadcasts previously heard only by residents in the northwest and elsewhere.

The station comprises two central AM transmitters. The IBA will broadcast Israel Radio's Radio One, which until now has not been received in the area, on 1458 kHz. Radio Two, which has had only limited reception, will broadcast on 882 kHz.

It will replace the Beit Hillel station which broadcast Radio Two only, at low capacity.

Aloni said the station would end the isolation of northern residents.

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Guard remanded for aiding terrorists

BILL HUTMAN

AN Arab school guard who allegedly helped Hamas terrorists escape from the scene of Friday's shoot-out with police near the Old City was remanded for 15 days by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Police said the guard, 57-year-old Kafara Majad, opened the empty and locked school in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood for the terrorists and let them hide there for several hours.

Majad also allegedly called the terror cell's leader and warned him police were on their way to arrest him. The gang's bullet-ridden car was

found by police not far from the school several hours after the pre-dawn shoot-out.

Meanwhile, the Hamas terrorist critically wounded by security forces in northern Jerusalem Friday died Tuesday at Hadassah-University Hospital at Ein Kerem, the police and hospital spokesmen said.

Rajeb Abadin, 22, of Beit Hanina, was shot in the head Friday night in the A-Ram neighborhood, after he

ignored police calls to surrender, according to the police spokesman.

A fellow Hamas cell member died at the scene from gunshot wounds, while a third member escaped and remains at large.

The three were part of a gang that had been involved in a shoot-out with police earlier that morning near the Old City, wounding two policemen and a civil guard volunteer.

A fourth gang member was shot in the head during the earlier confrontation, and remains in critical condition.

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Policeman denies shooting his wife

BILL HUTMAN

YOSSI Ohana was remanded for 15 days yesterday by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court pending completion of the investigation into the death of his wife, Bilha.

Ohana, a police officer in the Jenin area, told the court he did not kill her, although he admitted that all the facts point to him having shot her dead at point blank range.

Bilha was found dead Monday night at the couple's home in Moshav Ganim in northern Samaria. Yossi was also at the home when police arrived, and he has been in police custody since.

A police representative told the

court that Bilha was shot from a distance of less than a meter, and forensic tests showed it was not a suicide.

She was killed with her husband's gun, the representative said.

"I don't know what to say," said Yossi, visibly upset. "It looks like everything points to my guilt. It's as if I've blacked out. I just don't remember what happened."

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A scene from 'Royal Crown,' one of the plays to be presented at the Acre Festival.

Biggest Acre Festival yet - 25 dramas to premiere

HELEN KAYE

THOUGH there has been no increase in funding, this year's Acre Festival will be the biggest yet, festival producer Ya'acov Agmon said yesterday.

The September 20-23 festival will include 25 premieres and five guest productions spread over 30 venues in and around the Crusader fortress of old Acre. There will be more than a

dozen free or almost free outdoor theater shows as well as stand up comedy, free films and Acre's traditional street theater.

"Most of the 25 original shows have been especially created to suit the special atmosphere and conditions of the Acre venues," said artistic committee member Dudu Ma'ayan, who endorsed Agmon's definition of Acre as "the biggest theater laboratory in Israel." All 25 will compete for the NIS 20,000 in prize money.

This year's festival budget is NIS 3 million compared with NIS 2.9 million last year which actually represents a 12 percent decrease in real terms. NIS 1.2m. of this comes from the Ministry of Science and the Arts, and the rest from the Acre Municipality and the Tourism and Education ministries among others.

There are 30,000 tickets on sale at NIS 40 each, an increase of NIS 5 over last year.

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Four protesters killed by soldiers outside Lesotho king's palace

King dissolves government and parliament

LAWRENCE KEKETSO
MASERU

FOUR people were killed and several seriously wounded yesterday when Lesotho soldiers and police opened fire on protesters outside the king's palace in the capital Maseru, mortuary officials said.

A correspondent for Reuters was shown the bodies of four people at the mortuary. Officials said all had been shot dead in the clashes.

Heavily armed police and soldiers patrolled the streets of the capital in the late afternoon, after dispersing the demonstrators who had been protesting at King Letsie III's dissolution of the government and parliament.

Troops and police opened fire and wounded at least eight demonstrators who had planned to petition the king, saying they wanted the tiny southern African kingdom declared a republic.

Seven of those hurt were seriously wounded, hospital officials said.

More than 2,000 protesters marched on the monarch's palace after an early morning broadcast in which he told the 1.6 million people of the mountainous nation he was dismissing the 16-month-old government of Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle.

"There has been some shooting. I counted eight people who have been wounded," said a witness outside the palace.

The 34-year-old king, who replaced his father Moshoele II in 1990, said in his 5 a.m. broadcast

he was also suspending part of the constitution and ordering fresh elections because people were dissatisfied with the government.

Western diplomats said that despite the sacking of the southern African country's government, officials of the Basutoland Congress Party (BCP) government carried on work as normal, apparently ignoring the king.

"The government has been going about its business as normal," said the diplomat. "They are basically ignoring the king."

The BCP easily won elections in March 1993 that were the country's first multi-party polls for 20 years.

Witnesses said that at first police and soldiers merely dispersed chanting BCP supporters approaching the heavily-guarded palace. But protesters regrouped and returned on a petition demanding that Lesotho become a republic.

"The shooting started after an army vehicle went into the crowd and the protesters threw stones at the vehicle. Those inside the army truck then started shooting... police and soldiers guarding the palace joined in and fired at the people," one witness said.

"People have dispersed. Those who were wounded were being carried into police vans to be tak-

en to hospital," said one shopkeeper.

The king said in his broadcast that a council representing all the people was being established to run the country in the place of Mokhehle's government.

Lesotho, which is about the size of Belgium and ringed by South Africa, has been rocked this year by a police strike and a mutiny by soldiers in which the deputy prime minister was killed.

King Letsie's father, Moshoele, was deposed and went into exile in Britain in 1990 after differences with the then military government over how to run the country.

The BCP government has faced growing popular dissent, particularly over how Moshoele was ousted.

On Monday five opposition parties presented a petition to King Letsie asking him to stand down to allow the return of his father.

Letsie is reported to be in favor of such a move, leaving real power to a newly-elected government.

South Africa, on which the Lesotho economy depends, has said it will not interfere. President Nelson Mandela, however, is likely to be concerned about 76-year-old prime minister Mokhehle, who was a member of the African National Congress in the 1950s.

(Reuters)



Medics feed young Rwandan meningitis patients at an orphanage in Goma, Zaire yesterday. (AP)

Bosnian Serbs increase pressure on UN

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Bosnian Serbs stepped up pressure on the UN on yesterday by saying they could block convoys across their territory, and fighting flared near Sarajevo in violation of a UN-mandated heavy weapons exclusion zone.

The Vatican announced yesterday that Pope John Paul, in one of the most dramatic and potentially dangerous trips of his papacy, plans to visit Sarajevo on September 8.

Serbs yesterday served notice that they would block UN convoys through their territory beginning today unless peacekeepers hand over fuel. UN military spokesman Major Rob Annink said.

Annink told reporters peacekeeping commanders would refuse to abide by the demand.

"It is blackmail and we will not comply. It doesn't matter how much they want. We will not give them fuel," he said in Sarajevo.

Serb and Moslem-led Bosnian army forces traded shelling attacks near Breza north of Sarajevo, violating the 20-km UN weapons exclusion zone around the capital, Annink said.

Fighting in the same area almost provoked NATO air strikes against both factions a week ago.

The rebel Serbs' move to block convoys came two weeks after their long-time patron, Serbian-led Yugoslavia, imposed a blockade over their rejection of the latest peace plan.

Annink said possible fuel shortages caused by Belgrade's blockade would be a "logical explanation" of the Serbs' latest demand.

Bosnian Serbs, under pressure to accept the international peace plan, have tested the UN's resolve in the past month, raiding UN weapons depots, cutting off the main commercial route into Sarajevo and shutting down the humanitarian airlift into the city for weeks by shooting at UN planes.

NATO aircraft attacked a Serb target near Sarajevo this month after Serb soldiers seized back weapons from a UN-guarded storage site, violating the no-weapons zone.

Despite tensions around the city, UN officials were still trying to broker negotiations to reopen the commercial routes into Sarajevo which Serbs have closed.

Sri Lanka opposition wins election

COLOMBO (Reuters) - The opposition People's Alliance has won Sri Lanka's general election with 105 seats to the ruling United National Party's 94, the Elections Commissioner's office said yesterday.

But party sources said the UNP was desperately seeking coalitions with minority Tamil parties and an ally of the People's Alliance to try to preserve its 17-year hold on power.

The People's Alliance ally the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress won seven seats, while an independent Tamil group standing in the north and allied to the ruling party got nine.

Two other Tamil parties, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and the Democratic People's Liberation Front, won five and three seats respectively.

An independent group standing in the central hills won one seat and a fringe leftist group took one seat in the southern Hambantota district.

The party sources said ruling party officials had begun wooing the Moslem Congress with the promise of three ministerial portfolios if it helped the UNP stay in power by forming a loose coalition.

The UNP was also trying to entice the TULF to support it, the sources said.

Rwandan refugees trapped in fear

KIGALI (AP) - Truckloads of grumpy, tattered and sick Rwandan refugees rolled back from camps in Zaire. But they left behind others paralyzed by fear of Rwanda's new rulers and camp leaders who see repatriation as treason.

About a dozen yellow cargo trucks yesterday ferried 800 mostly Tutsi refugees to the capital, Kigali, 150 kms east of Goma on the Zairian border. Officials said they could expand the effort.

Most were women and young children, survivors of the civil war and its aftermath and members of the Tutsi ethnic group whose re-

bels toppled the Hutu-led government. That further indicated the Hutus in the camps were likely to remain a long time.

"All our husbands died of cholera or dysentery in the camps," said Melanie Nyiranzabonimana, 38, who lost five of her seven children. "I'm not afraid of returning. I'm more afraid of famine."

Sitting on the side of the road with about 30 mothers and kids, she was picked up by a truck several km from Goma.

"We are happy to be here," she said. But she added she didn't know how her group of 40 women

and children would sleep or find food without humanitarian aid, replacing the husbands they once had.

"There are so few men. Most of them were killed," she said.

The trucks rolled through about a dozen checkpoints, blocked by a rope or cloth stretched across the road, and run by teen-age soldiers of the new government's army. Along the nearly deserted highway were a few mostly Tutsi refugees returning on foot, and way stations set up to care for traveling refugees.

Unrepentant Carlos believes he has a future

CARLOS the Jackal, well aware he could spend the rest of his life behind bars, still believes he has a future and will defend his exploits in court, his lawyer said yesterday.

Lawyer Jacques Verges said Carlos, expected to be tried in France for a 1982 bomb attack and perhaps other acts, would not betray the details of his contacts with extremist groups and governments - details badly wanted by Western intelligence.

Verges, who met Carlos at the heavily-guarded La Santé prison in central Paris for the second time since he was seized in Sudan on Sunday and flown to France, said

he would press for his release soon on the grounds that he was kidnapped illegally.

"He is out of action for the moment, but he is in good spirits and not at all resigned to abandoning the future," Verges told reporters outside the prison.

But the present looked grim for the detainee held in isolation in cell 258187 at the drab prison. Carlos had been remanded in custody and placed under investigation for a 1982 car-bomb blast in

Paris which killed one person. A French court has sentenced him in absence to life for killing two French agents in 1975.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua has said Carlos was responsible for 83 killings worldwide and at least 15 in France.

Verges told reporters Carlos' line of defense at his trial, not expected to take place for months, would be to justify his struggle against what he saw as Zionism and capitalism.

"He will proudly defend his political and military struggle at his trial without going into details," he said.

"He is no squealer," he added, quashing speculation that Carlos could betray the governments and shadowy groups who backed him for two decades.

As controversy grew over the way Carlos was seized in Sudan, Verges said his first legal step would be to declare the handover illegal despite Paris' claim that he was extradited.

"He was not extradited, he was kidnapped. The extradition is null and this man must be released,"

Reuters

Plan Bet-2005/6/Bet Mem (Ramat Beit Hakarem)

Notice regarding Plan giving instructions for Unification and Redivision of Plots

To: The Following Owners of Plots whose names appear in the Land Registry at the Jerusalem Land Registry Office

Name	Passport	Block	Parcels	Remarks
Levy, Ethel	Italian L863926	30337	15, 16, 17	Part
		30338	18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Pardo, Tanya	Canadian EJ416410	30337	15, 16, 17	Part
		30338	18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Zadik, David	Iranian 1417713	30337	7, 11, 12, 29, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82	Part
		30338	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Klein, Hanna	Austrian R-092391	30338	74, 76, 78, 82	Part
		30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Klak (Klach), Shmuel	5398656	30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
		30338	74, 76, 78, 82	Part
Sh. Cohen, Daniel	American citizen	30338	7, 11, 12, 29, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82	Part
		30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Sh. Cohen, Ya'acov	British citizen	30338	7, 11, 12, 29, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82	Part
		30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Storch, Yosef	Belgian S-032013	30338	7, 11, 12, 29, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82	Part
		30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part
Stembuch, Michael	Swiss 7439849	30338	7, 11, 12, 29, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82	Part
		30337	15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 88	Part

WHEREAS:

You are registered in the Land Registry as having the rights in land shown on Jerusalem Local Masterplan Bet-2005/6/Bet Mem, which also contains instructions regarding the unification and redivision of plots (hereunder, "the Plan").

AND WHEREAS:

The Plan has been approved for submission to the Jerusalem District Residential and Industrial Building Committee.

AND WHEREAS:

Your address is not known and/or it is not possible to inform you by registered letter of the instructions regarding unification and redivision included in the Plan, and thus to give you the opportunity to state whether you accept or do not accept the Plan, to the extent that it affects land of which you hold the rights (as noted in the Land Registry). Each one of us hereby advised by this notice of the submission of the Plan.

THEREFORE:

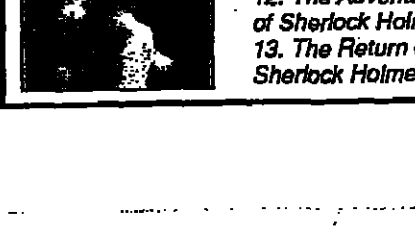
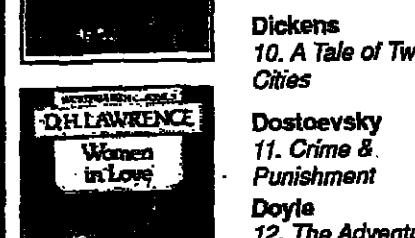
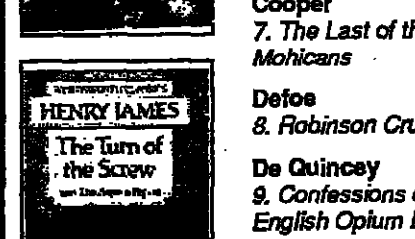
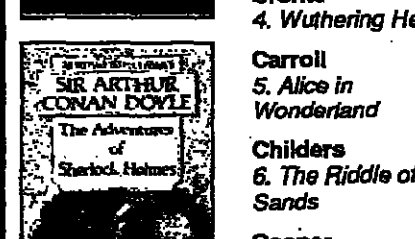
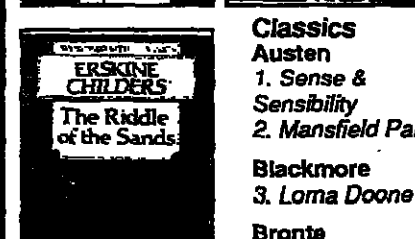
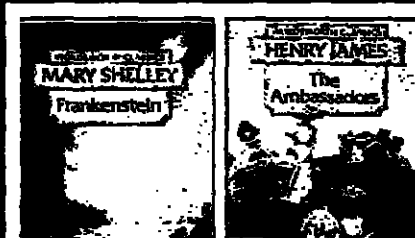
If you so wish, each of you may notify the Jerusalem District Residential and Industrial Building Committee (address - General Building, 1 Shimon HaMalka St., Jerusalem) within 30 days of the publication of this notice, whether you accept or do not accept the instructions regarding unification and redivision, as given in the Plan, insofar as they affect land of which you hold the rights.

A copy of your communication should also be sent within the same period, to the Jerusalem Local Committee for Planning and Construction (address - 1 Kikar Safra, Jerusalem).

Any of the holders of rights in land shown in the Plan who does not, within the above period, give notice of his position regarding the instructions contained in the Plan, to unify and redivide, will be regarded as not accepting these instructions, and the Residential and Industrial Building Committee will hold discussions and make a decision regarding the approval of the Plan, in accordance with its powers under the law.

This notice is published in accordance with the Town Planning (Jerusalem District) (Plan to Redivide or Unify Plots) Act, 1958, and in accordance with Section 5 of the Planning and Building (Ad Hoc) Procedures, 1990.

Eliahu Suissa, Committee Lawyer
Jerusalem District Residential
and Industrial Building Committee



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Car thefts: The grim facts and the great new hope

MOTORING

JOEL GORDIN

PICTURE this: You buy a new automobile for NIS 85,000. To do this, you take out a loan, which means that, with interest, you'll be paying out about NIS 100,000 all told. Your insurance company insists you fit both an advanced car alarm system costing about NIS 1,500 and a Rav Bariah lock on the gear shift, costing about NIS 300. This is, of course, in addition to the comprehensive insurance payments, amounting to at least NIS 3,000 annually.

Then, one evening, you go to the movies in the center of Tel Aviv. You park on a well-lit, main street, activate the alarm and lock the Rav Bariah. Think your car is safe? Think again.

A GANG of car thieves has spotted you. One, dressed like a typical yuppie businessman, follows you, and when he sees you enter the cinema he alerts his friends with a two-way radio or cellular phone.

Another gang member, dressed more like a mechanic, takes out a special thin, sharp-pointed jimmy, normally used by police and firemen to break into vehicles in emergencies. Within 15 seconds he forces down the window and opens the door and then the hood from the inside. The alarm shrieks, but to passers-by it looks as if the man in the business suit has brought a mechanic to repair his car. In any case, false alarms are all too common in busy cities.

The "mechanic" knows exactly how to disconnect the alarm; he once worked for a major alarm company. He may open the Rav Bariah with a master key, bought from somebody in that company. Or, he could simply chop off the gear stick with a heavy bolt cutter. An expert driver can change gears with the remaining stump.

Within another 60 seconds he jumps the engine by leading a wire from the battery's positive terminal to the starter motor. Some thieves now even use cranes

mounted on trucks to take away their loot.

The automobile is then driven to one of the many "chop shops" that dismantle cars for their parts, often operating under the auspices of a legitimate garage. There, the stolen auto will be stripped into more than 100 parts which fences sell to garages.

After you've recovered from the shock of finding your car missing, you report the theft to the nearest police station, where a bored clerk gives you a form to fill out. Chances are, that is the last you will hear from the police.

If the car is not found, the insurance company will pay you for your loss after 45 days. However, on a new car, the company will deduct 10 percent for depreciation even if the car was on the road for 10 minutes. Your total annual premium for the comprehensive insurance will be deducted from your reimbursement - even if you've had the car for only a week. If you buy another car, you'll have to take out a new policy.

Worse still, you will be obligated to continue paying out your loan, including interest, as if nothing had happened, unless your lender has agreed to a clause allowing you to repay the loan early (in which case you will still have to pay any interest accrued until that time.) Of course, you will also be without a car for at least 45 days, unless your insurance contract had specified a replacement vehicle in case of damage or theft.

HORROR STORIES like this one happen to hundreds of car owners daily all over Israel. Last year, 23,656 cars were stolen here, an increase of 55 percent over 1990. Crime is not supposed to pay, but it does for local car thieves.

The Automobile Importers Association has what it believes is a solution to the crisis. The AIA is urging consumers not to buy second-hand parts.



A policeman inspects the remains of a car - one of thousands stolen, stripped and dismantled each year. (Rachamim Israeli)

"If everybody bought only original parts, the thieves would go out of business and insurance premiums would drop," says AIA chairman Avihu Bin-Nun. Bin-Nun strongly criticized the insurance evaluators who often insist that - to save their companies money - repairs be made with used parts.

"I can accept that some simply cannot afford new parts, which in some cases can be more than double the price," Bin-Nun says. "But people should at least have the choice, especially as some used parts are of dubious quality and can damage the car."

What about the many anti-theft systems now flooding the market? Actually, you don't have a choice about whether to buy one or not. The local insurance companies, which act as a cartel, will not grant theft insurance if you do not buy an alarm or at least an anti-theft device on their "approved" list.

AIA managing director Ishai Rabinowitz says, however, that most of the alarms, despite fearsome names like Dragon and Cobra, are no match for the professional thieves who carry out more than 95 percent of the car thefts here.

keted by a new company called Cartrack, a subsidiary of Kital Investment and International Developments.

Called Lojack, it is a tiny micro-computer hidden in the car's electrical system. If you report your car missing to the company it will immediately activate the chip, using a network of radio towers. The company's security men or police can then trace the stolen car by means of a tracking unit installed in their vehicles. There is nothing to remember to turn on and there are no false alarms.

Lojack has been used in the US since 1986; in at least 12 US states the tracking units are installed in police cars. It has also been used by law enforcement officers in the UK, Greece and Columbia. Kital CEO Dr. Alon Entis claims it has interested the Israel Police in the device.

The average time it takes to track down a stolen vehicle is 90 minutes. Because the chip keeps working when the engine is turned off, police tracking the signal have been led to numerous "chop shops."

Reports compiled by Entis show that UK police have tracked 96% of the vehicles equipped with Lojack. Boston police report that car thefts in that city have plunged by 46%.

The company says the Lojack should be available here by January, and will cost around NIS 1,200 to install. It is currently negotiating with local insurance companies to approve the device, and to offer those who install it discounts on their premiums, as are offered in other countries.

Incidentally, not all car owners suffer losses when their vehicles are stolen. If you own an old car that is in poor condition and it is stolen, you will probably end up ahead of the game.

The insurance companies must pay out the automobile's value on the day of the theft, as stated in the price list issued by Levi Yitzhak. Since this list is based on the auto being in reasonable condition, the insurance company will probably pay you a lot more for the car than you would have gotten had you tried to sell it.

Skimpy styles take the politics out of women's wear

CATHY HORYN
WASHINGTON

MODESTY, as everyone knows, is not what it used to be. That Madonna appears on the cover of *Esquire* magazine in a vinyl bikini is no more shocking than what goes down the boardwalk at Atlantic City or the beaches of Florida.

The scantily clad, whether in spandex or infantile eyelet, appear to be almost indifferent to public scrutiny, even proud that they have what it takes to wear a tube top.

On Nantucket this summer, I saw a plump young woman pedaling happily down the bike path, her black bathing suit a reprise of the bullet bras and latex-paneled briefs that were once the purview of Frederick's. With her mouth painted a brilliant shade of red, she seemed to belong in a Fellini movie.

Small wonder that many women - thoughtful, practical and generally over the age of 40 - feel left out of the fashion game.

Despite hours at the gym, despite closets full of smart clothes, they are suddenly apt to feel old and defensive whenever they see a young woman going briskly about her business in a thigh-grazing dress and pair of platforms.

It is not that they wish to be younger, thinner and more attractive, although maybe they do. It is that the rules have changed so dramatically in the past few years that they don't know how to react to this casual flaunting of assets.

Any number of women would argue that bare legs and arms are not appropriate for the office, and that a rumpled rayon dress - the kind that many girls are wearing this summer over bodysuits or pretty bras - invites sexual harass-

ment or, at least, questions of judgment.

And yet, what few people over 40 seem to grasp is that a generation of women has grown up without fear that its behavior will be judged by its clothes. Modesty, self-respect and decency are not values these women associate with hemlines and cleavage.

Girls who go out to clubs in slip dresses and bra tops aren't making a leap from extreme fashion to certain disgrace. Maybe they're being naive. Or maybe 20 years of dressing for success has finally produced a generation that doesn't see a connection between who they are and what they wear.

Consider what women are wearing this summer. After years of being scorned as either too matronly or too feminine, the dress has emerged with renewed authority.

But unlike the sleeveless linen shifts and ankle-length shirtheists that have long been a staple of Washington summers, the new dresses are short and flirty, and look better without stockings.

When the slip dress, followed by its more innocent cousin, the baby doll, first appeared on the European runways last fall, the fashion press sternly predicted that women would never wear so demeaning a garment, nor one so childish that its designer thought to wheel a model out in a pram.

As it turned out, not only did women buy the dresses and their knockoffs, but they found ways to modify them. The slip goes easily over T-shirts and under jackets; the baby doll looks less virginal when worn with combat boots.

If soft little dresses offer women freedom from such underpin-



Two variations of the ultrashort skirt, shown in the fall/winter collections of Yves Saint Laurent and Gianni Versace, carry the summer's popular hem length into the coming season.

nings, they also produce surprising amounts of discomfort in people who still associate flimsiness with loose morals. It is with some irony that the British designer John Galiano has based his recent collections, particularly his bias-cut dresses, on the '20s; few eras

in the history of modern fashion have inspired more contempt for the way women dressed, while, at the same time, granting them more political freedom.

In England, as in America, the right to vote coincided with bobbed hair, flapper dresses and

the advent of nude stockings, which, according to British historian Beverley Nichols, caused "a number of elderly ladies to feel that the country had taken another step towards the Pit."

For designers like Galiano, the idle beauties found in the novels

of Evelyn Waugh and Nancy Mitford are incomparable creatures, their virtue pretty much overshadowed by nostalgia. But what about the lower-class figures who seem to have inspired the fall collections of the British company Ghost and New York designer Anna Sui - with their floppy chiffon wrappers and siletto heels?

In this century, the battles that women have waged for political and sexual equality have almost always been accompanied by major changes in fashion.

One thinks of Coco Chanel creating, in 1916, the first examples of the jersey chemise, which effectively established that women had bodies, rather than elaborate infrastructures of padding and whalebone.

Freedom was still the operative word when Mary Quant came out with the mini and Yves Saint Laurent the see-through blouse, though now the backdrop was the social movements of the '60s. When women adopted the broad-shouldered styles of menswear, in the early '80s, it clearly marked their passage from homemakers to breadwinners.

Now comes a generation of women that doesn't have the same hang-ups about social acceptance and is blithely indifferent to public opinion. This is what is most striking about the girls in fragile summer dresses: their innocence in the face of political correctness.

Such willfulness may not be completely understood, and it certainly isn't defiant.

But it is to be admired in a society where high-mindedness is often little more than a middle-aged refuge for narrow-mindedness, and where the reasons for baring one's body have become, in something short of a decade, stunningly apolitical.

(The Washington Post)

The long and short of fall and winter

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

WITH temperatures soaring, and forecasts promising each night that "tomorrow will be even hotter," few people are giving much thought to fall/winter fashions.

But if you're cleaning out your closet and trying to decide what to keep for the next season, your color guidelines are red, black and gold.

These were the key colors in the preview collections of Yves Saint Laurent and Gianni Versace. Both collections ran the gamut from whimsy to high drama, with fur and feather trims, petal-puff skirts, lined and padded peplums, exaggerated cuffs, and fish-tail skirts.

Silhouettes were generally slim, with skirt lengths defiantly riding high on the thigh despite the season for which they were intended.

There were occasional glimpses of eased shapes and longer skirts, but it was abundantly clear that winter will be a leg show, balanced precariously on eight- to 10-cm. high heels.

Layering, a dominant feature of the summer fashion scene, will be less prevalent during the fall, but is unlikely to disappear.

There's a certain fascination with the long over short and short over long which keeps layering in the limelight, at least on the back burner.

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Nuclear terrorism looms nearer

THE possibility that nuclear weapons might fall into the hands of terrorists is not a new fear. Even before the collapse of the Communist bloc, the idea was explored in media as varied as intelligence reports, journalists' investigations, and fiction. Since the end of the Cold War, the danger of eastern nuclear scientists and nuclear material entering dangerous black markets has been regularly in the news as a story waiting to happen.

Now that German police have made their fourth seizure of smuggled weapons-grade plutonium-239 and enriched uranium since May, the threat to international security has entered an alarming phase. And, as usual, the international community appears to have been deaf to earlier warnings and remains as unprepared to deal with the danger as if it had never heard of it.

Indeed, the first reaction to the German seizures has not been a closing of ranks in a united effort to trace and combat the smuggling, but a pointless squabble between Germans and Russians along the childish lines of "it's your fault; no, it isn't, it's yours."

For this, Moscow is chiefly at fault, adopting a silly defensive attitude of injured pride and accusing the West of a "smear campaign" - or "pure provocation" in the words of no less a responsible official than Yevgeny Mikherin, the deputy nuclear power minister. He made the even sillier assertion that the smuggling reports are a Western plot to prove Russia's nuclear industry unsafe in order to seize control of it.

On the other side, it seems the Germans have been unduly secretive and insensitive in attempting to track the origin of the plutonium, and have kept the Russians totally in the dark until pouncing on them with accusations of not guarding their facilities. While such investigations must take place in the secret and dangerous underworld, there should be some better machinery for cooperation at government level to prevent nasty surprises that may embarrass a country like Russia politically.

A chorus of voices from Russia and Ukraine have now declared the impossibility of the refined nuclear material having come from their plants or military bases. The short answer is it must have come from somewhere, and since the smugglers were heading west from the east, there seems no contest on the origin. The International Atomic Energy Agency has been asked to analyze the captured samples and is likely to identify their origin even more specifically.

The point is that the current nonsense of accusation and denial is sowing dissent rather than the close cooperation the world needs to counter the smugglers. Police have not yet identified the

would-be end users for this material, but they are unlikely to be mere collectors of exotic elements.

It is an unfortunate fact that the most devastating explosive power developed by man from esoteric scientific theory is now one of the simplest to harness, given the right amount of the right material. While the refining of the heavy elements to weapons-grade purity is a difficult industrial task, the fashioning of a nuclear device from the end result is not. Hence the nightmare scenario of such material falling into the hands of terrorist fanatics.

There is no doubt that, had refined plutonium been available to ruthless terrorists like Carlos, it would have been used. For terrorists, it is not even necessary to make an actual weapon. It would be sufficient to supply evidence that they had the right material, and a drawing of a device fashioned from it. Few governments would be able to reject whatever demands were then made if they believed there was a possibility of a nuclear explosion.

There appears to be no immediate danger of nuclear terrorism, but it is growing, and the time for action is now. The material intercepted by German police is plutonium oxide powder, not weapon-ready plutonium metal, and it has been in amounts of 300 grams or less. Around 10 kg would be needed for a basic critical-mass weapon. Plutonium oxide could originate only from very few sites in Russia, but the substance is farmed to many diverse locations for scientific use or experiment.

There is another caveat. Because of its open borders, Germany has been the most aggressive European state in pursuing the would-be nuclear smugglers. Experts have pointed out that this in itself may be creating a demand for smuggling, as sting agents try to locate sources by posing as buyers. Even journalists have tried to flush out sellers. One Russian working for *Stern* magazine spent three months penetrating a ring of metal dealers in a bid to find weapons-grade plutonium. However, even if smugglers are biting on sting operations, it is clear there are dealers willing to test the market.

There is no point in East and West huffing and puffing at one another in Cold War rhetoric. There is no reason to accuse the Russian government, or those in Kazakhstan, Ukraine, or Belarus of duplicity. The West must show understanding for the vast problems of disintegration and criminality that have swept the former Soviet republics.

President Boris Yeltsin has vowed cooperation to trace and stop nuclear smuggling. If cooperation is replaced by nationalist recrimination, only the nuclear terrorists will be laughing all the way to the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DREAMS OF PEACE

Sir, - Like the rest of the Jewish community, I watch with great hope as developments unfold in the Middle East peace process. I have waited most of my adult life to see Israel living in peace with its neighbors. Now that dream is closer than ever.

However, with each historic step in the current peace process, debate rages in our community - Is this the right thing for Israel to do? Is it too dangerous? Are the Israelis unwise to concede this point or accept that provision? With so many reasons to disagree with the process, why should we support it? Because we owe it to ourselves as Jews, to our friends and brothers in Israel and to our children, to recognize the importance of this opportunity. We need to face our own fears and recognize that this long and difficult process is a watershed for the region and for our people.

We have hoped for and dreamed of peace in Israel for decades. Those looking for the current diplomacy to result in a quick, neatly contained peace package are unrealistic.

THE HOME FRONT

Sir, - The time has come for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to switch priorities. While he has been making peace, domestic problems have ballooned. He has wisely shown the way and set the tone for negotiations with our Arab neighbors. Others can now take over.

Many in this country feel that only he can provide the energy needed to handle crises crippling everything from the economy to the environment.

Rabin's ministers claim the economy is healthy. Maybe so, from their view in their ivory tower. But the taxpayer sees high unemployment. Hundreds of thousands of pensioners are caught between fixed incomes and growing inflation. Housing is so

expensive that immigrants must mortgage their lives and young couples bankrupt their parents to buy flats at exorbitant prices.

Health care is chaotic. Our best hospitals are overcrowded, dirty and subject to serious medical errors.

Violent crime and drug abuse, the environment, traffic congestion and accidents, youth and education - these and more are sources of deep concern for the people.

Peace is fine, but what is it worth, if because of lack of leadership, the quality of life deteriorates? It is time for the prime minister to concentrate on the home front.

Jerusalem.

MARLIN LEVIN

IMAGE IMPROVEMENT

Sir, - Yehuda Levy reports ("A day of euphoria" J.P., July 29) that Queen Noor reads *The Jerusalem Post* every morning. So I hope you will run this letter since there isn't mail service to Jordan.

Two pictures routinely used on Jordanian TV's English news insult Israel. Prime Minister Rabin's set photograph looks like rotting eggplant ready for the garbage truck. The white part of the Israeli flag is shown as dish-rag dirty gray. By contrast, the white in other flags is dazzling. When flags are shown together, as they almost always are, it looks like a laundry commercial with Israel's flag washed in Brand X.

I am confident that Queen Noor, or someone else who is reading her copy of *The Jerusalem Post* while she and King Hussein are on their private trip to England, can have Jordanian TV catch up with the new situation engendered by the Washington Declaration.

And yes, at the same time Jordan should get a good picture of Shimon Peres instead of the stark photo now in use which has him looking like he is restraining a stomach upset.

Jerusalem.

JOSEPH L. LAMDEN

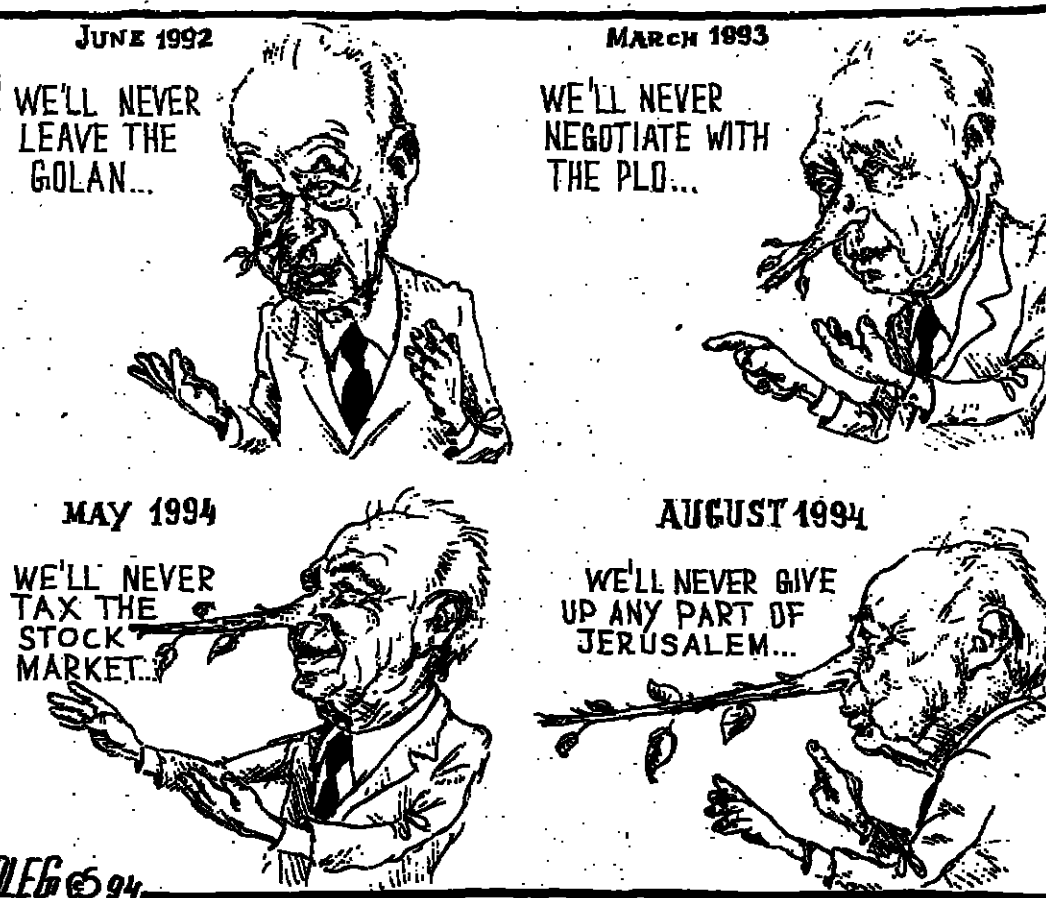
QUID PRO QUO

Sir, - Julian O'Leary writes in the *Financial Times* of August 10 that "Israel is preparing to make a unilateral trade concession worth millions of dollars to Jordan to keep up the momentum of the peace process."

Without considering the wisdom or otherwise of such a concession, would it not be reasonable to require Jordan to repudiate the Arab trade boycott as a quid pro quo?

Jerusalem.

STANLEY LAWSON



A marked monarch

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

BOTH Prime Minister Rabin and King Hussein squinted their eyes to watch a plane high above as they stood recently on the deck of the Jordanian monarch's personal yacht off Akaba. The two men were chatting like old, dear friends following the visit by the Israeli leader to Hussein's Akaba residence after the peace agreement between their two countries.

Thirteen years earlier, on June 7, 1981, brotherhood with Israel was the last thing on Hussein's mind while cruising in the same waters. The king was awakened from his after-lunch siesta by the sudden angry roar of fast-moving planes a mere 20-30 feet overhead. A trained pilot, he immediately recognized that the lead aircraft, painted desert yellow, was an Israeli-piloted F-15. Behind the lead plane, in tight, disciplined formation were seven other F-15s. Ominously, they were followed by eight F-16 fighter bombers heavily loaded with extra fuel tanks, rockets and other armaments.

Hussein knew immediately that the Israeli jets were on a mission of deadly mayhem. He sensed that Jordan was not their target and guessed that the pilots were heading for Saudi Arabia or Iraq. Blood was thicker than water. He felt duty bound to come to the aid of his Arab brothers.

Hussein promptly dialed the king of Saudi Arabia's private number. "His Majesty is having a late lunch," he was told. "He can't be disturbed." No amount of pleading or shouting by Hussein about the "urgency" of his call helped.

Undaunted, Hussein then tried to phone Saddam Hussein in his palace. "The president cannot be contacted," he was told. Later Hussein learned that Saddam spent his Sunday afternoons with a charming European lady known locally as the "Babylon Beauty" at her handsome villa on the banks of the Tigris River.

The frustrated king finally called his own commander-in-chief, who was dutifully at his post. "Don't even try to intercept the Israeli planes flying overhead," he ordered. "We have nothing to fear from them." Replied the puzzled general: "What Israeli planes? Our radar has not reported anything."

King Hussein did no more phoning. His last recorded remark was an order for his speedboat to be lowered. He announced tersely that he was going waterskiing. As he did so, 16 MK-84 iron bombs delivered with uncanny accuracy

by Israeli pilots devastated Saddam Hussein's Osirak nuclear bomb-making plant on the outskirts of Baghdad. All the planes returned safely home.

ISRAELI LEADERS including Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan, Rabin, Shimon Peres and Abba Eban have over the years boasted about countless "secret" meetings with King Hussein (details of which were always coyly leaked afterwards by them).

Terror chiefs have targeted King Hussein. If they succeed, Israel could face a nightmare scenario

One such get-together was with Yigal Allon in the autumn of 1968. Allon proposed handing over most of Judea and Samaria. Hussein demanded, in addition to the land, the right to hold sway over the Temple Mount.

Allon replied promptly: "There can be no concession about Jerusalem. None whatsoever." He told the king unequivocally that "Israeli sovereignty over all Jerusalem is supreme forever. And that includes the Temple Mount. There is a national consensus over this."

The plan was axed because of the dispute over the Temple Mount. Rabin, a junior officer who was Allon's right-hand man in the Palmah, has retreated from Allon's rigid principle of "absolute sovereignty" - hitherto a keystone of Labor Party policy.

For his part, Hussein has never wavered over this issue. We were told that he would not have come to terms with Rabin if Israel had not conceded the Temple Mount. This, despite the fact that he was desperately anxious to appear alongside Rabin and President Clinton in Washington.

Hussein knew that, following his support of Saddam Hussein in the Gulf War, joining the peace process was his only chance of being saved from bankruptcy by the US. He was also anxious to upstage PLO chief Arafat and re-

main on friendly terms with Israel. He has never forgotten that it was Israeli sabre-rattling in 1970 that saved him from a Syrian invasion and the attempt by the PLO in the days of Black September to dethrone him.

Even with the keys to the Temple Mount in his pocket - handed to him to temper criticism from his Arab brothers - leading intelligence experts are warning the king bluntly that he is in danger.

Rejectionist Front terrorist chiefs like George Habash and Nayef Hawatmeh, as well as the Hizbullah leadership directed from Iran, have targeted him. Although his efficient secret service keeps a close watch on these fanatical groups in Amman, the entire extremist jihad movement is screaming for his blood.

We were told: "The king is now their enemy number one. He always had a charmed life against would-be assassins. But right now he's in greater danger than ever before."

Hussein's reputation in the fundamentalist circles was not helped by Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan's recent statement that "Israel will cooperate with Jordan in combating terrorism."

With his own extremist parliamentary deputies coming out in opposition to his agreement with Israel, the king is now like a man "who is caressing a snake in his very bosom," said one expert.

He added: "Hussein hasn't forgotten that two other Arab leaders who cooperated with Israel, Sadat of Egypt and Bashir Jemayel, the Lebanese Christian leader, both paid with their lives for the same crime of 'betrayal.' Nor have Arab leaders forgotten the embarrassing leaks in Washington that Hussein was in the pay of the CIA until the late 1970s."

"If Hussein is toppled, extremist Moslems are likely to seize control in Jordan. If that happens, when the Oslo Agreement has been realized to the full and Arafat has taken over the entire West Bank area, a nightmare scenario will face Israel."

"The reality will be a Palestinian state on both sides of the Jordan River. This will mean an open door for Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia as well as Iran to spread their tentacles and their armed puppets to the very borders of Jerusalem and Kfar Sava."

The writers are co-authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service, and other books on the Middle East.*

A telling story

GHASSAN BISHARA

SUPPORTERS of democracy everywhere should stand up now and oppose Yasser Arafat's move against *An Nahar*. The hard- and long-struggling Palestinian people deserve to reap the fruit of their struggle and to begin to enjoy a democratic rule.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with the September 13 arrangement between Israel and the PLO, and whether events since then do or do not serve the best interests of the Palestinian people, the crackdown on the press by Arafat this early in the process of self-government is not a good beginning at all.

Worse than the silencing of *An Nahar* is the lack of regard the act itself shows toward the Palestinian people and toward those who have supported them. Arafat's move against the freedom of expression, one of the most elemental pillars of democracy, is a telling story. It is astounding to try to fathom the logic behind such an undertaking, particularly in light of the conclusive defeat of the Arab authoritarian order at the hands of tiny, but democratic, Israel.

Arafat must realize this, and he

The 'An Nahar' closure shows how little PLO leaders understand about their people in the territories

must seek to change the style of governing in the Palestinian arena. The best place to start is to encourage, not hinder, free expression.

It is also astonishing to discern how little PLO leaders understand about their people in the territories. For years, these people protested loudly against the occupation authorities' censorship of their press.

The Palestinian people - beneficiaries of a free and unhindered press - shall not acquiesce to the PLO leaders' attempts to force-feed them what they have rejected from their occupiers. The closure of *An Nahar* will needlessly cancel criticism of Israel's role as a censor of the Palestinian press and exonerate it historically. Censorship of the press is wrong, whether decreed by Israel or the PLO.

THE MESSAGE from the Arab-Palestinian people is clear: Democratization is the only condition for progress. This means allowing for a free press. Without it, conditions will remain unchanged.

Even if *An Nahar* has been financed by Jordan, and is sympathetic to Jordan's point of view, Arafat, by banning it in the autonomous areas, is at best sending a message of intolerance. At worst, he is signaling his intent to govern just like the others in the region.

The PLO's financing of many publications in the Middle East in exchange for expressions of support for PLO objectives was precisely the rationale behind Israel's on-and-off censorship of the Palestinian press. The present irony will not escape anyone. One would hope that the Arab-Palestinian press could soon achieve full financial and editorial independence. Until then, however, Arafat would do best to stay clear of the press.

To facilitate democracy in the Palestinian areas, various important elements should be present: First is an unequivocal Palestinian belief in the value of democracy, including that of freedom of the press. Also critical is the Palestinians' willingness to fight for it and to continue to protect it with all their might. Because the transformation to a democratic rule occurs at a cost to the order already in place, it is expected of leaders to try to slow down, or even scuttle, the Palestinians' march toward democracy.

The US could extend a hand to assist democracy in the territories. A gripe of most Arab-Palestinian activists and intellectuals has been that unlike the efforts the US has made to promote democracy in all corners of the world, it has shown no real inclination to do so in the Arab world.

The greatest service the US and others can offer the Palestinians would be to persuade the leaders of the necessity to democratize and to help create an environment in which the people, with a certain measure of confidence and security, can navigate their way toward the realization of their dreams.

Now is the best time to do so, and the opportunity should not be allowed to slip away.

The writer, an American of Palestinian descent, is a freelance journalist based in Washington. (Washington Post)

POSTSCRIPTS

A COSMETIC surgeon was convicted of killing a lounge singer who bled to death during an operation to tighten his tummy and enlarge his penis.

Dr. Ricardo Samitier Jr., known as "Dr. Lips" because he frequently performed surgery to give women fuller lips, was convicted of manslaughter.

Samitier, 37, of Miami, lost his medical license and faces up to 15 years in prison.

Claudio Martelli, 47, went to Samitier's clinic for surgery to trim his double chin, chubby cheeks and pot belly. He also asked for a penis enlargement as a surprise for his wife.

Samitier used a controversial autologous penile engorgement, in which fat removed from elsewhere in the body is used to plump up the penis

and increase its diameter.

Prosecutors argued that Samitier should not have accepted Martelli as a patient because the singer had an enlarged heart, wore a pacemaker and took medication to thin the blood.

They said Samitier could not control Martelli's bleeding and was unequipped to respond when Martelli's heart stopped beating. He also waited 30 hours before calling paramedics.

LURIE'S WORLD



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Time is one thing I can't refuse my children

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,
I simply can't say no to my children about anything I do with my time. I have no problem refusing them when they nag for sweets or toys, but if they want me to entertain them - even when it's highly inconvenient - I always give in. Then I get angry with them for asking.

Mother of All Wimps
Jerusalem

Dear M-of-W,
You're okay with yourself when it comes to decision-making about candy - but doubt the legitimacy of wanting time to yourself. For some reason, you don't really believe in your right to be too lazy, too tired or even too busy to make yourself available to your children whenever they're bored.

For your own sake as well as your children's, you've got to delve into why you don't feel you have the right to insist on "your time."

In the meantime, whenever your children demand that you play with them at an inconvenient time, try to act the way you do when they pester you for sweets.

Dear Ruthie,
My husband is addicted to football. My 10-year-old son has become infected with the same bug. Going to matches is the main activity they share.

Though I consider it positive for a father and son to spend at least one day a week together off on their own, I don't approve of football, because I believe it is contributing to violent behavior on my son's part, as well as to his use of foul language. What should I do? Bawling About Football
Belt Zayit

Dear Footbawling,
Some degree of violent behavior and foul language is common among 10-year-old boys. You don't specify the level of violence your son has been exhibiting. But over-aggressiveness in

schoolchildren is usually an expression of frustration and rage at an absence of parental involvement. So the worst thing you could do would be to put a stop to your son's outings with his father.

If you feel he is showing a worrisome degree of anti-social behavior, however, you should seek family counseling. If not, accept his love for football as you would any other hobby.

And feel free to put your foot down about foul language in your presence.

Dear Ruthie,
I attended a charity event where there was a raffle. As I had no cash on me, I borrowed the money for the ticket from a friend. I then forgot all about it until a couple of weeks later, when I got a letter telling me I'd won an expensive prize.

Should I now compensate my friend in some way? Should I repay the small change he lent me to buy the ticket?

Raffle Baffled
Somewhere in Israel

Dear RB,
At this point, returning the small change seems a bit silly, and will only make you look like a cheapskate. It will be as though you only took the trouble to remember to cough up the cash when you were awarded something better.

I think being a good sport means offering your friend some part of your prize. If it was cash, I'd suggest splitting it. Since it apparently isn't, why not take him out to an expensive restaurant?

It might be worth considering that, had you paid back the money in the first place, you wouldn't be in this spot now.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to, guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)



Palm-laden beaches, lush plant life, and a successful cultural mix are among the attractions of Tobago, Trinidad's quieter sister.

Tobago: Safe, but exotic, haven

TRAVEL
GARY LEE

IT'S not yet breakfast time, but already the local lads have taken to the park, dressed from collars to crew socks in white, and settled into a morning of cricket. By lunchtime the big scene is at Brown Betty's, a corner eatery where the crowd is devouring roti, a popular spicy dish imported from India.

At dusk the action has shifted to Crown Point Beach. There the men are wearing baseball caps backwards, the women are clad in fluorescent green and everybody is swaying gently to the latest in rap out of New York.

This is Tobago, island of mixed cultures. Meeting point of Old World mores and New World hip. On a recent visit, in the course of a day, I witnessed the broadest range of cultural expression - from a steel band jam to a high tea party - without wiggling far from the hammock on my veranda.

Tobago, the quieter sister of Trinidad (the two-island nation's official name is Trinidad and Tobago), is the best kept secret in the West Indies. Only 45 km. long and 10.5 km. wide, it sprawls like a Cuban cigar off the coast of Venezuela. In spite of its size, the island has a wildly varied habitat that includes palm-laden beaches, rolling hills and a colorful tropical rain forest.

With all of 47,000 inhabitants, Tobago has an air of intimacy about it, the kind of place where everyone is on a first-name basis. After two days there, I not only knew which restaurant served the best dinner (Jemma's, a quaint place built in a tree that hangs over the sea in the town of Speyside) but I also knew the owner, the cook and their daughters.

Two hours into my second visit, I called Jemma, yelling into the telephone that I had two friends from Paris in tow and we were starved. "I'll do my best," she said, and proceeded to prepare a stuffed lobster feast worthy of a prince.

As a result of the sense of intimacy and the melange of influences, even first-time visitors easily feel a part of Tobago. After a few trips, I was so taken by it all, from calaloo soup to basketball on the beach, I gave the island my ultimate endorsement: I bought a house there.

OF COURSE, a cultural mix is not unique to this Caribbean oasis. Multiculturalism is a major theme of the 1990s and signs of it abound from Hong Kong to Rio. What is different in Tobago is that the melting pot seems to function. In an era of ethnic clashes and national movements, this is a safe haven where exotic influences flow together easily, not unlike the juices of papayas, oranges,

mangoes and coconuts that blend into a soothing rum punch. There is another difference about this island. Tobagonians, unlike Trinidadians, are not really racially mixed. The majority are descendants of West Africans. But they have a wonderful way of absorbing the gamut of trends, proving that even a homogeneous people can embrace multiculturalism. And somehow they manage to keep it all in the style of their quiet fishing villages.

Many aspects of life in Tobago today are clearly holdovers from British rule: the dainty uniforms children wear to school, the proper English locals speak, driving on the left side of the road and the inevitable weekend game of cricket.

Unfortunately, the English also left a lasting imprint on local cuisine. In some private homes and guest houses, for example, 4 o'clock means time to pull up a chair to crumpets, jam and Earl Grey tea. And in villages along

Tobago's winding course, the evening meal of choice is fish and chips. In spite of the outside influences, Tobagonians have held on to their own heritage and habits with remarkable resilience. Before the Europeans came to the island, the predominant culture was Creole, aspects of which are still strongly felt in Tobago's cuisine and, in some cases, the language.

And the passionate love of storytelling probably brought from Africa has evolved into the calypso music tradition. Trinidad and Tobago is one of the centers of steel band music. On Friday and Saturday nights, in the main street of downtown Scarborough, there are always bands dueling, calypso artists crooning and crowds eagerly cheering them on.

Carnival, a specialty of Trinidad, is big here also. For a few days every winter, in mid-February, offices and shops close down

and the island goes wild in song and costume dance.

But for the rest of the year the island is calm, the kind of place where Trinidadians like to come to get away from it all. Tobago is said to be Robinson Crusoe's island, and, from my perch on an empty beach, it seems plausible.

Beyond the simple pleasures of village life lies the spectacle of Tobago's natural resources. Thanks to its location in the midst of the tropics, the island is covered with plants and wildlife that seem somehow richer in color than almost anywhere else.

Deep purple orchids grow wild along the roadside, as do all manner of trees, from palm to coconut, mango and papaya. Plantations of cocoa and tobacco (whence the island gets its name) used to flourish here, and you can still see remnants of them here and there.

Coccyzus - the national bird - can be seen spreading their brown and blue-green feathers across many a country road.

All this gives a walk to the beach the feel of being inside a kaleidoscope. (The Washington Post)

Tobago: On and off the beaten trek

FROM the US, most flights to Tobago go through Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad, requiring a change of planes for the 20-minute flight to Tobago on one of the local airlines.

Taxis are readily available at the Tobago airport, but rent a car. There are more than a dozen car rental agencies on the island; most have offices at the airport. Two reliable ones are Singh's Auto Rentals, and Toyota Rent-a-Car. Advance reservations are a good idea.

For those who want a touch of luxury but in the midst of local culture, a great lodging place is Richmond Great House. Perched on a scenic hillside in the village of Belle Garden, about 45 minutes from the airport, this is a 19th-century plantation that has been restored as a charming six-room guest house, with a big swimming pool. The cost for doubles is about \$40 a night per person. A meal plan that includes hearty breakfasts and dinners of local cuisine is about \$50 a night per person.

There are also dozens of bed-and-breakfasts and guest houses. Since most visitors favor the Crown Point area, near the airport, rates tend to be cheaper the farther north you go.

Very special accommodations off the beaten trek: The rustic two-room guest house run by Duran and Iselin Chance in Paria-

tuvier, a sleepy fishing village about an hour from Scarborough. For about \$25 a night, you get a bedroom, private kitchen and balcony with a view straight across the ocean. At the Blue Waters Inn, a small guest house in Speyside, on the northern coast, everything is romantic. Cabin rates are about \$90 a night.

My favorite restaurant is Jemma's, in Speyside. The place offers down-home Caribbean cuisine: big bowls of calaloo soup, chickpeas and salads made of fresh greens. Order an entree and you get a four-course feast, including soup, salad, a main course of beef, fish or lobster, and dessert.

Jemma does not serve alcohol; soft drinks and coffee are gratis. The tab averages \$15 a person. Reservations are recommended. Rousselet's, on Bacolet Street near Scarborough, serves excel-

lent contemporary Caribbean food in a well-appointed, comfortable setting. I had a memorable shrimp creole dinner that included soup and an ice-cream sundae for about \$25. This is the place to get good Caribbean rum drinks served on a classy wooden bar. Reservations are recommended for dinner, and you should ask for a sea-view table: The sunset is memorable.

Recommended books: *Trinidad & Tobago* (Insight Guides, APA Productions), which tells the history of the island in detail and recommends good driving routes; *The Caribbean Islands Handbook* (Passport Books).

For further information, contact the Trinidad and Tobago Tourist Development Authority, 25 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. G.L.

(The Washington Post)

And now, a mobile office

LIFE-STYLE
RAJIV CHANDRASEKARAN

WHEN Martin Taylor spots an early-morning sea of brake lights ahead of him on Washington DC's Capital Beltway, he doesn't curse or get frustrated. He just reaches over and fires up his computer.

Propping his laptop on the passenger seat and putting both knees to the steering wheel of his Nissan Pathfinder, Taylor starts to scan his electronic mail, his eyes fluttering between the small screen and the car ahead. He grabs the wheel with one hand; with the other he moves about the keyboard, scrolling through his messages.

For Taylor, 24, each morning brings lots of messages - and some close calls. "You look up and see brake lights in your face, and you just have to jam on the brakes," he said. "The computer usually goes crashing onto the floor."

Despite the occasional skipped heartbeat, this setup has become a way of life for Taylor. A marketing representative for the computer software giant Microsoft Corp., he faces a grueling hour-long daily commute from Washington's Virginia suburbs to Maryland.

Taylor's morning routine reflects a growing trend among commuters nationwide: As roads become ever more congested, many workers aren't letting drive time become down time.

Late risers have for years scarfed down their breakfasts and gingerly applied makeup while driving down the highways.

But longer commutes and the proliferation of cellular phones and tape decks have fueled a new generation of drivers who are using their trips as time to return phone calls, bone up on a foreign language, improve their management skills or do some reading.

"This type of behavior is becoming more and more common," said Rich Malloy, editor of *Mobile Office*, a 125,000-circulation magazine.

Perhaps the most popular way for commuters to make the trek to work an edifying, if not bearable, experience is by listening to tapes - books on tape, foreign language tapes, vocabulary-building tapes and practically every other type of educational tape.

Car faxes also are gaining popularity, said Joe Pinielli, vice president of Cellular World, a Dallas-based mobile phone accessory store. The machines, which are small enough to rest on the dashboard, cost upwards of \$600, he said. And within a year, Pinielli said, his company and others will start retail sales of cellular phone-to-laptop connectors.

Such possibilities have prompted several manufacturers to design cars that can accommodate extra appliances. New models of the Buick Regal and Riviera, Nissan Maxima and Dodge Stealth have two cigarette-lighter sockets to power additional electronic gear, said Phil Berg, a senior editor of *Car and Driver* magazine.

But these developments have more than a few highway safety specialists worried. For years, police and motorist groups have urged drivers not to eat, read or groom themselves behind the wheel. The prospect of a full-service office on wheels, many say, is positively frightening.

"We draw the line at where the eyes are," said John Undeland, a spokesman for the American Automobile Association's Potomac chapter. "It's absolutely a bad idea to take your eyes away from the road."

(The Washington Post)

When they say there's no room at the inn

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

IF you are a victim of overbooking, there is not much you can do about it while you are away, but you should be able to get financial compensation once you arrive home, according to the Tourism Ministry.

The information comes in the wake of recent reports of overbooking in Turkey. According to the ministry, if you find yourself being shunted off to a cheaper hotel, or subjected to any other indignity, you should submit a written complaint to the ministry on your return.

If it is found to be justified, the ministry will order the tour operator to compensate you. If the operator doesn't comply, the ministry can make the payment out of the deposit, which each operator is required to make.

To ensure that you get the hotel you want, the Travel Agents Association recommends that you make sure the name is written on your voucher before you depart.

DESPITE REPORTS of overbooking, cheap deals for Turkey are still being offered. Arkia has a package of three nights with half board at the Hilton in Mersin for \$299. Other three-night packages include Marmaris, starting at \$380, Antalya for \$348, and Istanbul for \$324. All these vacation packages can be extended. There is a surcharge of \$50 to \$75 during the holidays.

Yossi Tours is offering a seven-night holiday package at the Sheraton in Antalya for \$657, and a week package in Istanbul from \$474.

Arkia is also putting a holiday surcharge on its packages to Cyprus. Excluding the surcharge, a three-day package to Paphos

starts at \$335, while a package at a five-star hotel in Limassol starts at \$399. There are similar surcharges on packages to Crete (from \$615 for seven nights), Mykonos (\$579 for seven nights) and Rhodes (\$509 for seven nights).

Arkia has no holiday surcharge on packages to Sicily, which start at \$555 for seven nights in Taormina, or the packages to London, which start at \$625 for six nights, or those to Paris, which start at \$685 for seven nights.

Natour has a four-night package in London from \$482, a six-night package in Paris from \$610, a four-night package in Rome from \$601, and a four-night package at the Park Inn Hotel in New York \$899 (flight and room only).

All the above packages include round trip air fare and, unless otherwise noted, bed and breakfast.

HOLIDAY TOURS to the Far East are being featured by Rimor Tours, with excursions to China, Hong Kong, and Thailand. A 25-day tour of all three destinations starts at \$2,290 for land fees (plus \$1,173 for air fare), while an 11-day tour of either Bangkok and Pattaya, or Bangkok and Phuket, sells for \$1,358, including air fare. Natour is featuring an 11-day tour of China for \$2,290, and a 15-day tour of Spain and Portugal for \$1,590, during the holiday season.

VISITORS TO Budapest or Vienna can travel between the two cities by river steamer on the Danube. The two-and-a-half-hour journey costs \$77 each way, \$110 round trip. A day tour of Vienna from Budapest, traveling one way by steamer and the other by tourist bus, costs \$175. Local representatives are Holidays Tours.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1994

The ins and outs of the capital gains tax

AS investors sit on their hands until Sunday for the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange to reopen — weighing whether to sell their stock or grit their teeth and bear the tax on their profits — here is how the tax will work.

The tax on stock profits will be imposed at the time of the stock sale, beginning January 1, 1995.

Since the tax is only on real profit, the purchase price or the share's price on December 31, 1994 — whichever is later — will be adjusted based on the inflation rate from that time until the sale. The real profit, then, will be the difference between the inflation-adjusted purchase price and the sale price.

For example, if one bought a share worth NIS 100 on January 1, 1995 and sold it for NIS 120 six months later, with inflation of 5 percent, one will pay NIS 1.50 in taxes.

Since the banks or stockbrokers will take the tax at the source,

investors' bank accounts will be credited for the sale price minus the tax.

Stock market investors who currently do not file tax returns will not have to file one when the new tax becomes effective. The tax will follow the same collection system as taxes on interest and index adjustment on index-linked savings.

TASE price limitations off on Sunday

LIMITATIONS on share price fluctuations in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange will be removed for one day on Sunday in an effort to let the market reach its natural level as soon as possible in the first day of trading following Tuesday's announcement of a capital gains tax.

According to a broker at a

JOSE ROSENFELD

Investors who are self-employed and, therefore, are required to file a tax return, will register stock profits as limited-income.

The tax on stock profits will fall on individuals, non-profit organizations and mutual funds.

According to Tax Commissioner Doron Levy, foreigners will also be required to pay the 10% capital gains tax, unless their country has a tax treaty with Israel.

The sale of mutual fund participation shares will not be taxed, however, the fund itself will be taxed.

If an individual buys and sells the same stock several times, the profit will be calculated as if the first stock bought is sold first.

Profits will be calculated separately for each account an investor holds. Moreover, the transfer of a stock from one account to another will be considered a sale unless the receiving bank confirms the account is owned by the same person who owns the source account.

Profits for convertible securities — such as convertible bonds or warrants — and options, will be calculated based on the price the investor actually paid for the stock and not the stock's trading price.

Investors who sell their stock within 31 days of purchase will not be entitled to the inflation adjustment in calculating taxable profits.

Levy also announced that the Treasury is planning to reduce property purchase taxes next year to help lower housing prices.

RACHEL NEIMAN

leading bank, however, the move may be aimed at panic selling.

The limitations will force customers to give fixed-limit orders on stock traded during the day. Normally, trading is halted when a stock either rises or falls by 10 percent during a session.

On Monday trading will return

to its normal format.

The TASE today will issue its final decision on the steps it will take as a result of the 10% capital gains tax.

The exchange is preparing for a large volume of trade on Sunday and is expected to extend trading hours for the session, which will open one hour later than usual.

Nakash Brothers ask court to stop restraining orders

EVELYN GORDON

NAKASH Brothers Realty (NBR) yesterday asked the Supreme Court to cancel two temporary restraining orders against it.

One order prevents NBR from selling its shares in Coral Beach Ltd. to Ofer Brothers, and the other forbids NBR from selling its shares in the Yigal holiday village. The orders were issued at the request of the official receiver, to prevent NBR partner Joseph Nakash, a former director of North American Bank, from sending his proceeds from the sales overseas. The official receiver is seeking a liquidation order against Nakash in an effort to obtain the money he owes the state for his role in the bank's collapse.

NBR argued that the orders should be considered null and void, because it was not invited to the hearings at which the orders were given, despite the fact it is seriously damaged by them. NBR also charged that the court is not authorized to restrict the sale of a partnership's assets because of a debt owed by one of the partners. But in any case, it said, the shares covered by the orders are all under lien to Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi, for debts worth much more than the company would obtain from the proposed sales. Therefore, the official receiver would not be able to get his hands on this money even if the court ultimately grants a liquidation order against Nakash.

NBR has an option to force Ofer Brothers to buy its 26 percent stake in Coral Beach for \$11 million — some \$2m. more than the shares are currently worth on the stock exchange — before January 27.

Meanwhile, 80% of the company's shares in Coral Beach are under lien to Bank Hapoalim for a debt of \$9m., and the remaining 20% are under lien to Bank Leumi for a debt of \$14m. Hapoalim has already threatened to cash in its lien if it does not receive \$8m. immediately. Therefore, even if the sale goes through, all the money would go to the two banks, and if it doesn't, Hapoalim, at least, is likely to seize most of the shares.

Ofer Brothers also has an option to buy NBR's 50% stake in Yigal for \$4.5m. within a year, as well as a right of first refusal on the shares. These shares are under lien to Hapoalim for a debt of \$16m. and therefore, all money from any sale would again go straight to bank, NBR said.

Meanwhile, accountant Dan Baily, following orders from Judge Ya'acov Bazak, yesterday increased the amount owed by North American Bank's board of directors to the bank's receiver to NIS 632.5m. The board originally was ordered to pay NIS 48m.

Harish: Add credit guarantees for CIS trade

JOSE ROSENFELD

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Micha Harish yesterday called on the government to provide more credit guarantees for trade with CIS republics than presently allotted by the Israel Foreign Trade Risk Insurance Co. (IFTRIC). According to Harish, the additional guarantees would enable Israel to secure a foothold in trade with the former Soviet republics.

Harish admitted the added credit would exceed IFTRIC's risk criteria, but justified the move on grounds that it would serve national and economic interests.

Since additional credit guarantees cannot be justified based purely on economic considerations, Harish is demanding the government

make a political decision to take the added risk — deriving from the political and economic instability of the new CIS regimes — to develop a market where Israel has a decided competitive advantage.

Industry and Trade Ministry Director of Foreign Trade Zohar Peri said that there are requests for projects and trade with the republics reaching hundreds of millions of dollars. He added that other countries, such as the US and Germany, are providing grants to finance deals with the republics.

Treasury officials said that IFTRIC's 5400

million allotment for the republics has not even been used up, and it is likely that businessmen who came with projects which failed to meet IFTRIC's credit guarantee criteria are now pressuring Harish to get the money.

"People are willing to invest in those countries as long as someone else [the government] takes the risk," a Treasury official said.

IFTRIC credit guarantee criteria are to insure that the conditions exist for a country to meet its payments, the official explained.

"I don't believe that after giving us grants, the Americans would appreciate our providing grants to Israeli companies in order to compete against US firms," the official concluded.

'Postal Authority changes on the way'

JUDY SIEGEL

MORE efficient, personal services and greater attention to companies' needs will move the Postal Authority out of its current "stagnation," which had resulted from a management crisis, the authority's new chairman Amos Mar-Haim and new director-general Ran Levin said yesterday.

The officials, who were appointed last month by Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni, said they are in the midst of conducting a major management shake-up that will move the authority into the 21st century. The authority did not have a permanent director-general for nearly two years, during which time Amos Bracha, who was dismissed from the post by ex-Communications Minister Rafael Pinhasi, tried unsuccessfully to get his job back through a High Court plea.

Mar-Haim, an industrialist, former deputy mayor of Jerusalem and ex-director-general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said his main aim is to make the authority more profitable while improving services to the public.

"Residents do not want to receive a piece of paper from the postal services asking them to pick up a package or registered letter at the nearest branch because they weren't home when the deliverer arrived."

An experimental program in Beersheba dealing with this problem equips couriers with a cellular phone and vehicle, and has greatly improved the delivery of registered letters and packages; if the customer isn't home, the courier leaves his cellular phone number and delivers the items when the customer is available.

Meanwhile, direct two-way mail



Postal Authority Chairman Amos Mar-Haim (left) and director-general Ran Levin: We're in the midst of a major management shake-up. (Brian Hendler)

delivery with Jordan and Morocco should be possible soon, and will cost less than NIS 1 for a regular letter. Direct delivery to other Arab countries is expected to follow, Mar-Haim said.

The chairman said half of the 50,000 complaints received annually by the authority involve registered mail, even though it is only a fraction of all mail delivered. Efforts will be made to reduce complaints and speed up delivery partly by making postal coordinators and branch directors "personally responsible" for

the level of services.

In addition, the authority is looking into the possibility of providing lightweight electric vehicles for deliverers in certain areas.

A new "business line" for express mail and package delivery has been established. Although the market for these services is NIS 150 million a year, Levin said the authority provides less than NIS 20m. of the total.

The authority will focus on expanding services, including speedy delivery of internal institutional mail and on-line transfer of vehi-

cle ownership at all post office branches. In addition, the authority will be responsible for providing updated gas mask equipment for the public.

Personal post office boxes at branches and at central distribution centers will be linked to an electronic system informing the owner if mail has arrived.

Levin added he intends to eliminate delays that cause some mail to arrive a week late which, he said, is more important than cutting the average delivery time from 1.4 to 1.3 days.

Leumi development bank reports drop in profits

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

BANK Leumi for Industrial Development yesterday reported a sharp fall in second quarter profits to NIS 714,000, from NIS 13 million in the same period last year. The main factor accounting for the difference was a one-time gain of NIS 12.1m. registered in last year's second quarter. Profits from financing activities fell to NIS 514,000, from NIS 1.23m.

• Keter Publishing announced a 91 percent increase in second quarter profits to NIS 440,000, from NIS 230,000 during the same period last year. The company had revenues of NIS 8m., down from NIS 8.7m.

The company said the rise was due to cuts in sales costs, management and general expenses, and marketing strategy changes.

Earlier this week, CEO Oren Most said he would be leaving Keter as of November 1.

• Aryt Industries reported second quarter net profits of NIS 261,000, compared with a net loss of NIS 1m. in the same period last year.

Revenues were 73% higher at NIS 20.6m., from NIS 11.9m.

The company attributed growth to its current backlog of orders amounting to NIS 98.9m.

• Kralina posted second quarter net profits of NIS 10.1m., down from NIS 12.3m. in the same period last year. The firm had revenues of NIS 74m., compared with NIS 84.9m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.57, down from NIS 0.71.

Kvalim said the decrease was due to a rise in funding costs and losses incurred on the TASE during the reported period.

• MGB Technology and Science announced net profits of NIS 216,000, compared with a net

loss of NIS 570,000 in the same period last year.

The company, which specializes in technical writing for its major clients the Defense Ministry and McDonnell Douglas, said last year's loss was due to higher marketing and development costs.

• Matav Cable Communications' reported second quarter net profits of NIS 8.8m., compared with NIS 1.7m. in the same period last year. The firm had revenues of NIS 43.4m., up from NIS 31.6m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.41, compared with NIS 0.09.

The company said more subscribers, particularly in the retirement home sector, was the main factor for the increase.

• Polgat reported net profits of NIS 3.6m., compared with NIS 2.8m. last year. The firm had revenues of NIS 107.9m., up from NIS 104.3m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.07, compared with NIS 0.06.

Elron Electronics buys 30% share in PC Etcetera

RACHEL NEIMAN

ELRON Electronics Industries has acquired a 30 percent share in PC Etcetera, one of the US's leading front-end training firms which develops courses for PC users.

As part of the agreement, Elron's artificial intelligence division, Automatic Courseware Expert (ACE), will become a PC Etcetera subsidiary. ACE tech-

nology allows training programs to be constructed automatically, and has been used in applications by AT&T, NYNEX, British Gas and the Israel Air Force.

Properties belonging to ACE's subsidiary Adar have also been purchased by PC Etcetera.

Two Elron representatives will sit on PC Etcetera's board of directors as part of pact.

Elron president Uzia Galil said the combination of ACE, Adar and PC Etcetera will provide a thrust in all areas related to computerized training.

"[This is] an innovative technology in the formative stages of market penetration... uniting forces will aid us in realizing the vast potential which this technology embodies."

PC Etcetera's Or Yehuda subsidiary will continue to develop solutions based on ACE technology.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Nazareth water problems temporarily solved: The Water Commission has increased water provisions to Nazareth and surrounding areas by 250 cubic liters per hour. Two temporary drill sites will supply some 10 percent of the city's water demand, leaving it still 10% below normal levels.

The crisis is a result of failures at the Netofa 1 well and an increase in population throughout the region over the past few years. The commission has promised that the well site will be repaired. Mekorot is seeking alternative drill sites to supplement demand.

More lamb for the holidays: To encourage lamb meat consumption in the Jewish sector, the Agriculture Ministry will allow the import of 500 tons of frozen lamb in time for the High Holy Days. The imports will come from Australia or Europe via sheep growers, meeting ministry regulations.

Statistics provided by the ministry show that out of 8,500 tons of lamb purchased annually, some 6,000 are consumed by the Arab sector. The import of 600 tons of frozen lamb was approved at the beginning of the year for Ramadan.

The ministry is examining the possibility of importing 10,000 lambs from Australia to be raised for slaughter.

Sefen formica gets bigger: Sefen will invest \$1.4 million in a new production line for large-sized sheets of formica. The company also manufactures backing material for printed circuit boards and claims to hold 10% of the total world market share.

Adidas to buy Israeli textile products: Adidas, the US-based sportswear and footwear maker, will open a plant here through local marketing licensee Ruth Livrin. Initially, the plant will be used to produce youthwear products for the American market. In the plant's second stage, the plant will be used for clothing for children aged 4-7, and the third stage will be used for a women's line.

The first order from the local operation is estimated at \$400,000 and orders are expected to reach about \$6m. per year.

WORLD BRIEFS

ABB profits up 31%: ABB Asea Brown Boveri AG, the world's leading power engineering group, yesterday said restructuring and efficiency gains boosted group net profit by 31 percent in the first-half of 1994 despite flat revenue.

In its half-year statement ABB said new orders rose 3% to \$15.475 billion and revenue inched up to \$13.100b. on the back of good demand in the Nordic countries, Britain, Asia, Eastern Europe and some Latin American countries. First-half earnings after financial items rose 20% to \$608 million and net profit rose 31% to \$322m. *Reuters*

Intel to build \$1b. chip manufacturing plant: Intel Corp. said Tuesday it plans to build a new \$1b. chip manufacturing plant in Oregon by 1998 and spend \$700m. more to expand another one in the state.

Oregon's Washington County approved Tuesday a key property tax break that Intel said would determine whether it went ahead with the planned investments.

Intel, the world's biggest chipmaker, plans to build a micron chip manufacturing plant in Hillsboro, Ore. and expand its existing chip plant in Aloha, adding 350 jobs in each site, spokesman Howard High said. *Reuters*

Hewlett-Packard announces surprising strong profits: Computer maker Hewlett-Packard Co. Tuesday reported surprisingly strong third quarter earnings, sending its stock soaring nearly 10%.

Analysts said the third quarter gains were helped by a wide variety of factors, including strong revenue growth. Analysts also pointed to 27% year-over-year order growth, unexpectedly strong for a seasonally slow quarter.

The computer maker's stock soared \$7.75 to \$86.75 on New York Stock Exchange volume of more than 1.7m. shares at midday. *Reuters*

Telecommunications Inc. said Tuesday it bid for Viacom Inc.'s Madison Square Garden arena, Knicks and Rangers teams and a cable TV operation, facing what sources say is a rival joint bid by ITT Corp. and Cablevision Systems.

Separately, the Wall Street Journal reported Viacom is in talks over the sale of its cable operations to InterMedia Partners for \$2b. to \$2.5b.

Englewood, Colorado-based TCI, which recently bought part of home shopping network QVC Inc., said it had bid without partners for the Madison Square Garden assets. "We bid alone," said TCI spokeswoman Lela Cocoros. Cocoros declined to discuss details of the offer. *Reuters*

AT&T sets up unit to foil phone-system hackers: AT&T Corp.'s Global Business Communications Systems subsidiary said yesterday it has formed an investigative unit to monitor, track and catch phone-system hackers in the act of committing toll fraud.

The unit will profile hacker activity and initiate "electronic stakeouts" with its business communications equipment customers in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, and work with them to prosecute the thieves.

"We're in a shoot-out between 'high-tech cops' — like AT&T — and 'high-tech robbers' who brazenly steal long distance service from our business customers," said Kevin Hanley, marketing director for business security systems for AT&T Global Business.

"Our goal is not only to defend against hackers but to get them off the street." *Reuters*

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patish (foreign currency deposit rates) (17.8.94)			
Currency (deposit term)	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$200,000)	4.350	4.600	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.350	4.600	5.125
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	4.000	4.000	4.375
Swiss franc (CHF 50,000)	4.000	4.000	4.375
Yen (¥10 million)	0.825	0.750	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (17.8.94)			
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes
U.S. dollar	3.5350	3.4000	—
German mark	3.0164	3.1038	9.88
French franc	1.2355	1.2627	1.90
Japanese yen (¥100)	4.8382	4.7046	4.54
Dutch guilder	0.5942	0.5722	0.55
Swiss franc	3.0029	3.0513	3.05
Swedish krona	1.7257	1.7479	1.80
Norwegian krona	2.3358	2.3385	2.35
Denmark krone	0.5624	0.5877	0.58
Finland mark	0.4355	0.4457	0.43
Australian dollar	0.4675	0.4943	0.48
Canadian dollar	0.5565	0.5816	0.57
S. African rand	2.1022	2.2230	2.15
Belgian franc (F 100)	2.2591	2.3570	2.31
Austrian schilling (S 10)	0.8412	0.8531	0.83
Italian lira (L 1000)	0.9357	0.9529	0.92
Japanese yen (¥100)	2.7479	2.7858	2.70
Spanish peseta (P 100)	1.8235	1.8232	1.82
British pound	—	—	4.25
Spanish peseta (P 100)	3.6740	3.7257	3.65
Spanish peseta (P 100)	4.5738	4.5934	4.47
Spanish peseta (P 100)	2.5167	2.5494	2.41

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

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Key Representative Rates		
	Change	
US dollar ...NIS 3.0370	+0.16%	
Starling ...NIS 4.6717	+0.05%	
Mark ...NIS 1.9475	+0.06%	

INTEL STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes		
	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	7775.5	+5.07
DJ Transp.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Util.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Avg.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Div.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Ind.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Ind.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Ind.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Ind.	1012.5	+1.25
DJ Indus. Ind.	1012.5	+1.25

Other stock market indexes		
	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3160.3	+1.25
Nikkei 225	1012.5	+1.25
Hong Kong Hang Seng	8337.28	+171.36

Israeli stocks in NY		
	Last	Change
Am. Tel. & Tel.	44.82	+0.37
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NYSE / AMEX		
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Fed signals rate hikes may be over

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Federal Reserve, in boosting US interest rates again, says it has accomplished its mission, begun six months ago, of curbing inflation before it escalated.

In a move widely expected in financial markets, the US central bank announced on Tuesday that it was raising two key interest rates by half a percentage point.

It set in motion rate increases by commercial banks that will soon be mirrored by higher credit card and mortgage costs.

"But these actions are expected to be sufficient, at least for a time, to meet the objective of sustained, non-inflationary growth," a Fed statement announcing the rate increases said.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, while giving no direct hint on which way the policy-making Federal Open Market Committee would go, said last week that its monetary tightening

this year was primarily aimed at keeping inflation under control in 1995.

"By the time that aggregate price indexes reveal that inflation is on the upswing, many imbalances that are costly to rectify have already developed," Greenspan said in testimony before a House Operations subcommittee.

Even before its latest move that took the key discount rate to 4.0 percent and the Federal Funds rate to 4.75%, the Fed had been criticized for undermining the recovery with little evidence that inflation was a problem.

And Tuesday was no different. Powerful House Banking Committee Chairman Henry Gonzalez accused the Fed of chasing long-held dreams of zero inflation.

"[The] decision by the Federal Re-

serve is another big step in the wrong direction, which will injure the United States economy and place additional burdens on workers in a weak labor market," Gonzalez said in a statement.

In announcing its latest move, the Fed, however, said: "The actions are intended to keep inflationary pressures contained and thereby foster sustainable economic growth."

This was the fifth time that the Fed has tightened credit this year, beginning in February. Its latest action was quickly emulated by commercial banks, which bumped up their prime lending rates to 7.75% from 7.25%.

Clinton administration officials steered clear of criticizing the Fed for its latest move, saying they recognized the need for vigilance on inflation while stressing the overall health of the economy.

"We believe the economy will remain healthy, led by continued strong investment spending, which is laying the foundation for future growth and higher living standards," Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and White House chief economist Laura Tyson said in a joint statement.

In raising interest rates this year for the first time in five years, the Fed is trying to prevent the economy from overheating and thus extending the life of the expansion.

So far, it has had limited success, although Fed officials caution that it takes time for their monetary medicine to affect the economy.

Growth has slowed from the feverish pace seen last year, as higher interest rates have dampened consumer demand, particularly for housing.

Strong futures push up FTSE gains

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Share prices closed with robust gains on a healthy turnover, supported by strong FTSE futures after UK inflation data calmed fears of a near term rise in domestic interest rates. Although the Dow showed reluctance to build on Tuesday's gains after a bullish interpretation of 1/2 point US rate rise and shares lost their shine in late trading, the FTSE 100 ended 43 points up at 3,190.3.

Courier takes a break

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Appearing tired and bored and sounding a bit desperate, Jim Courier announced he is leaving tennis indefinitely.

"There is a problem inside, and I'm not really sure what it is," Courier, the former No. 1 player in the world, said Tuesday after losing to Alex Corretja of Spain 1-6, 6-4, 6-3 in the second round of the RCA Championships.

"And the only way to figure it out is to just take a step away and come back when I am ready because I am not doing myself any good, and I am not doing anybody else any good by putting in a performance like today."

Courier, who turned 24 yesterday, said he is not sure if he will play in the US Open, which starts August 29. He hasn't won a tournament since last year's RCA Championships when he beat Boris Becker, and his ouster from this tournament will knock him out of the world's top 10 rankings.

In the first set Tuesday, Courier needed just 28 minutes to blister Corretja. But 42 unforced errors later, the fifth-seeded defending champion had been ousted from the tournament by the 20-year-old Corretja, the youngest player in the field.

"It was all my doing," the world's former No. 1 player said. "I missed a few shots, and I lost interest. I'm tired — physically, mentally and emotionally."

"I am hitting the ball fine," Courier said. "There is a problem inside, and I am really not sure what it is and the only way to figure it out is to just take a step away."

Courier stopped short of saying he's quitting, noting that he wasn't to the point where Mats Wilander was when he walked away from tennis for nearly two years.



TOO MUCH RACKET — A frustrated and tired Jim Courier has announced an indefinite break from tennis. (AP)

"I certainly don't feel like I'm ready to walk away from the game."

But Courier said he will put his rackets away indefinitely.

"They are going to stay there until

my heart tells me to pick them up again — and I don't know if that is going to be one day, one week, one month, one year, 10 years. I don't know," he said.

TCCB imposes moratorium on overseas player signings

LONDON (AP) — The Test and County Cricket Board, under pressure to ban foreigners from English county cricket, on Tuesday imposed a partial four-month moratorium on the signings of overseas players.

In its summer meeting at Lord's, the TCCB did not consider a formal proposal for the elimination of overseas players, but said it would likely consider the matter at its winter meeting in December.

"There will be a moratorium until the December meeting of the Board," TCCB chief executive Alan Smith said. "In this period no county will sign a new contract for an overseas

cricketer that goes beyond the 1996 season."

"We will ask Lancashire to make an official proposal next month and our various committees will meet to examine all aspects of overseas players in county cricket," Smith said. "I anticipate a decision at the winter meeting."

The Lancashire club has led the drive to phase out overseas players by 1996, arguing that an ever-expanding international program doesn't allow counties to get their money's worth from players called up for foreign Test duty.

The county lost Wasim Akram

halfway through this season and Somerset is doing without Mushtaq Ahmed because of Pakistan's tour to Sri Lanka.

The issue has also created argument that overseas players have a negative influence on the standard of England's game at an international level.

The West Indies currently has a full complement of players — Brian Lara, Courtney Walsh, Curtly Ambrose, Phil Simmons, Jimmy Adams, Carl Hooper, Cameron Cuffy, Desmond Haynes, Winston Benjamin, Kenneth Benjamin — that are playing for English county clubs.

Wessels not content with draw

LONDON (Reuters) — South Africa will not be content with sitting on its 1-0 lead when it faces England in the third and final Test starting at The Oval today.

"Sitting on a lead just doesn't work," South African captain Kepler Wessels said yesterday. "Winning a series in England would be very special, but winning it 2-0 would be even better and that is exactly what we are going to try and do."

Wessels was speaking from experience. Twice in the recent back-to-back series against Australia, one away and one at home, South Africa took a 1-0 lead, played for a draw and ended up sharing both series 1-1.

South Africa will not announce its final line-up until shortly before the start but it seems likely the only change from the first two Tests will be the axing of opening batsman Andrew Hudson for middle-order specialist Darrell Cullinan with Peter Kirsten promoted to open.

If Cullinan does play it will bring back some happy memories. "Ten years ago, as a 16-year-old, I played

about two weeks for Middlesex second eleven and I scored a hundred at The Oval against Surrey seconds. I was thrilled at the time but a few days later I was asked to leave the country because I didn't have a work permit!" Cullinan said.

England captain Michael Atherton was equally positive about England's chances.

"It was disappointing not to force home a winning position at Headingley but you have to give credit to the South Africans. They are notoriously difficult to beat," he said.

"Bowling them out twice when they have batsmen all the way down to numbers 10 and 11 is not easy."

Both England and South Africa feel The Oval's faster, bouncier wicket will work in their favor.

"I can understand their bowling attack fancying their chances," said Atherton. "But if both teams think that conditions will work in their favor, it should at least make for a cracking Test match."

Croatia routs Israel 4-0

ORI LEWIS

ISRAEL'S national soccer team received another blow to its morale yesterday, as the hopeful hosts went down 4-0 to Croatia in a friendly international match in Ramat Gan.

The Israelis looked feeble against a side composed of some of Europe's top players.

Only some 1,100 turned up to watch Israel in its last warm-up before the qualifying competition for the European Nations' Championships next month. Coach Shlomo Scharf has his work cut out for him when Israel hosts Poland next month.

Israel's dreary performance allowed the Croats free rein and the visitors did not let the opportunities slip by. Igor Cvitanovic opened the scoring in the second minute when he picked up a cross by Mischa Asanovic that cut through the Israeli defense. He had no trouble in slotting the ball past Rafi Cohen in goal.

Cvitanovic added to his tally in the 24th minute when he picked up a superb through ball by Zvonimir Boban which beat Israel's offside trap and again had no trouble in leaving Cohen stranded.

Bonnie Ginzburg fared no better in goal in the second half as Nikola Jurcovic put Croatia further ahead in the 52nd minute.

Milenko Mimic completed Israel's misery just two minutes from time when he deflected the ball past Ginzburg to seal the scoreline.

Israel fared much better in the earlier under-21 international as captain Shai Holtzman led Israel to a 2-0 victory. The Maccabi Haifa superstar scored both goals, the second a superb free kick from 20 meters.



FOUL PLAY — Former heavyweight champion Riddick Bowe (c) swings at Buster Mathis, Jr., who is down on one knee. (AP)

Buster Mathis appeals 'no decision'

TRENTON (AP) — Lawyers for Buster Mathis Jr. have appealed to New Jersey athletic commissioner Larry Hazzard Sr. to reverse his "no contest" ruling in Mathis' heavyweight fight against Riddick Bowe.

With Mathis on one knee in last week's bout in Atlantic City, Bowe hit him with a right that knocked Mathis over. Referee Arthur Mer-

cante immediately stopped the fight and called the blow an intentional foul.

"You overruled him and called the bout a 'no-contest,'" attorney Jack R. Clary said Tuesday in a letter sent to Hazzard. "We believe that this decision was not only wrong but violates the rules of the New Jersey Athletic Control Board."

Clary wrote that under the rules, either Mathis should have been ruled the winner or the bout called a draw. "There is no provision in the rules for declaring the event a 'no-contest,'" Clary said.

No new talks are scheduled, but Rayvitch said the federal mediators probably would call a meeting for later in the week. The sides haven't met formally since last Friday, the first day of baseball's eighth work stoppage since 1972.

Huizenga's brother-in-law buys Heat

MIAMI (AP) — The Miami Heat, the only major South Florida sports team not affiliated with Wayne Huizenga, was purchased by the sports-and-entertainment mogul's brother-in-law.

Harris W. Hudson, who is married to Huizenga's sister, Bonnie, said he bought the Heat's limited partners Billy Cunningham and Lewis Schaffel, and will become the team's managing general partner.

Terms were not disclosed, but sources close to the deal put it at about \$60 million.

Huizenga, Blockbuster Entertainment's chairman, owns baseball's Marlins and hockey's Panthers, and has just purchased the NFL's Dolphins.

Hudson, who also is part-owner of the Marlins, said he anticipated no problems with the NBA approving

the deal. Hudson is the team's minority owner; the majority owner is Israeli Ted Arison.

Effing a general manager is first on the agenda, Hudson said. The position was shared by Cunningham and Schaffel, who retain the right to pursue free agents and make trades until the deal is closed.

The Heat, which finished 42-40 last season, has been criticized by local media for not pursuing free agents. The team, which joined the NBA in 1988, made the playoffs for the second time last season, losing to the Atlanta Hawks in the first round.

Hudson said he is committed to staying at the Miami Arena in a crime-ridden downtown area for the remainder of the team's four-year lease. Huizenga is planning to build a sports complex for the Marlins and Panthers.

Owners say 'no scabs'

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball owners say they won't call in replacements for striking players.

"It's not something anybody has considered seriously at all. It's not about to happen," management negotiator Richard Ravitch said Tuesday. "Both the players and the owners found in football the public wasn't terribly interested."

Baseball's longest midseason stoppage since 1981 entered its sixth day yesterday, wiping out 14 more games and raising the total canceled thus far to 74. If there's no settlement by tomorrow — and a quick deal doesn't appear likely — the strike would become baseball's second-longest in terms of canceled games. The 1981 strike wiped out 712 games.

Players and owners are prepared not to come back this season. The Toronto Blue Jays held their end-of-season organizational meetings Tuesday.

"In some ways, I guess it did feel like the end of the season, but we were just taking advantage of available time," assistant general manager Gord Ash said. "We all want to see a completion to the season, but those of us who went through this in '81 are aware there's different phases. This is, unfortunately, one of the hardest phases."

No new talks are scheduled, but Rayvitch said the federal mediators probably would call a meeting for later in the week. The sides haven't met formally since last Friday, the first day of baseball's eighth work stoppage since 1972.

Meanwhile, Seattle Mariners pitcher Jim Converse became the second player on strike to be sent to the minors, joining Chicago Cubs pitcher Steve Trachsel, who was sent down Monday.

Converse, optioned to Calgary of the Pacific Coast League, had been losing \$595.63 per day during the strike but will be paid at the rate of \$30,500 a season.

In Jacksonville, a lawsuit filed on behalf of fans and sports bar owners attempting to stop the strike was dropped.

US District Judge Harvey Schlesinger refused to issue a court order stopping the strike but scheduled a hearing for tomorrow.



REFUSENICK — Manager John McGraw, who refused to take his team into the 1904 World Series, stands next to carriage carrying NY Giants owner John T. Brush.

A World Series-less season would not be the first

NEW YORK (AP) — If the current labor strife lasts long enough, it could endanger the World Series.

And if that happens, it would not be the first time a baseball season ended without a championship series. Ninety years ago, the World Series was abandoned, dropped abruptly at the whim of New York Giants manager John McGraw, who simply decided he would not allow his team to participate.

McGraw had his reasons and they involved the most basic of emotions — ego, power and revenge. The target of his ire was Ban Johnson, a former sports writer, who dreamed up this new-fangled idea called the American League.

Baseball at the turn of the century was not exactly an orderly operation. The National League, formed in 1876, was reasonably successful and not interested in Johnson's suggestion that it recognize a new league.

NL executives ducked a meeting with Johnson, so enraging the entrepreneur that he decided to go ahead with his league and raid the NL for players. The NL had a salary ceiling of \$2,400 for its players and Johnson ignored the barrier — it wasn't called a cap — staging player raids.

Among those lured away were pitchers Cy Young and Joe McGinnity, infielders Nap Lajoie and Jimmy Collins and a gruff third baseman named

John McGraw, imported to manage the Baltimore franchise.

The National League was not about to stand idly by. If it was war the AL wanted it, it was war the NL would get. The Nationals fought back and the first target was reacquainted McGraw, who had made no friends in the AL because of his combative style and constant bickering with umpires.

But the player raids worked for the AL, which drew 2,206,454 in attendance in 1902, over 500,000 more fans than the NL's 1,683,012. The NL, seeking an accommodation that it had previously avoided, offered to take in four AL clubs, creating a single, 12-team league. Johnson was not interested, but did agree to peace terms that promised an end to player raids.

Still, the old animosities existed. When Pittsburgh won the NL pennant in 1903, owner Barney Dreyfuss cavalierly challenged Boston, champions of the AL, to a postseason showdown. Henry Killilea, Boston's owner, was intrigued by the idea and, with Johnson's blessing, accepted.

There was one caveat. Johnson warned Killilea that his team must win. Boston prevailed in the best-of-nine-game series, much to the delight of the upstart AL and the consternation of the established NL.

No one was more annoyed than McGraw. He still disliked Johnson

and was not amused when the AL placed a new franchise in New York to rival his Giants. The Highlanders, which would evolve into the Yankees, were in 1903 just another needle in McGraw's side, a condition the man they called Muggsy, did not enjoy.

In 1904, McGraw's Giants soared to the top of the NL, winning 106 games and capturing the pennant by a fat 13 games. Boston repeated in the American League and prepared for another showdown.

Not this time. McGraw would have none of it. There would be no World Series — he called it "a haphazard box-office game with Ban Johnson and Company" — no chance to diminish what his team had accomplished.

The get-even smug was not a popular position, not with the fans, who accused McGraw of cowardice, and not with other owners, who sensed a major promotional opportunity with the potential for lucrative extra income slipping away.

Even the players, given an extra two weeks pay for the first series, were not pleased. McGraw was clearly in the minority and a year later, when the Giants won again, his viewpoint had been altered.

With the blessing of the two league presidents, the World Series was restored in 1905 and it has been in place ever since.

Teen dies in youth Maccabiah

CLEVELAND (AP) — A 15-year-old boy collapsed and died while playing in a basketball game during the North American Maccabi Youth Games.

Drew Corson of Louisville, Kentucky, was pronounced dead on arrival Tuesday at Rainbow Babies and Childrens Hospital, apparently a victim of arrhythmia, or an irregular heartbeat, said Merle Levin, a spokesman for the games. An autopsy was planned.

Corson had no history of medical problems, according to forms he submitted to the games' organizers, Levin said.

Corson had just entered the basketball game at the Mayfield Jewish Community Center when he collapsed. A doctor who happened to be in the stands was unable to revive him and rescue workers from the Cleveland Heights Fire Department, located next door to the center, took him to the hospital.

Some 2,500 youths ages 13-16 are competing in the biannual Maccabi Games at 25 Cleveland-area venues. The participants represent 68 cities in Israel, US, Canada, Britain, Australia and Mexico.

The delegation of 20 athletes from Louisville withdrew, but the games will continue. Social workers were brought in to assist the participants in dealing with the boy's death.

Competition in 14 sports is being held through tomorrow.

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SCOREBOARD

ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP (1st round, 1st leg)

Barnet 4, Leyton Orient 0; Blackpool 1, Chesterfield 2; Bournemouth 2, Northampton 0; Bradford 2, Grimsby 1; Burnley 1, York 0; Bury 2, Hartlepool 0; Cardiff 1, Torquay 0; Colchester 0, Brentford 2; Crewe 2, Wigan 1; Gillingham 0, Reading 1; Hereford 0, West Bromwich Albion 0; Hull 2, Scarborough 1; Lincoln 1, Chester 0; Luton 1, Fulham 1; Oxford United 3, Peterborough 1; Rochdale 1, Mansfield 2; Rotherham 1, Carlisle 0; Southport 2, Huddersfield 1;

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP (2nd round)

Ayr 0, Celtic 1; Dunbarton 0, Hearts 4; Falkirk 1, Motherwell 1 (after extra time, Falkirk won penalty shootout 5-4, seven after 90 minutes 1-1); Greenock Morton 1, Airdrie 1 (after extra time, Airdrie won penalty shootout 5-3, seven after 90 minutes 1-1); Motherwell 3, Clydebank 1; Partick 5, Brechin 0; St. Mirren 0, Dundee United 1.

Shas presents Rabin with ultimatum

SHAS Party leaders yesterday presented Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with an ultimatum: unless the coalition agreement with it is kept by next week, Shas will go to the opposition and fight with the Likud to advance the Knesset elections.

Shas further stipulated that without religious legislation there will be no coalition, warning that Rabin would have no government.

Rabin is due to meet with Meretz leaders tomorrow to discuss the terms of Shas's joining the coalition. But Meretz announced yesterday it cannot accept the religious legislation which Shas is demanding.

Shas has made its return to the coalition contingent on anchoring the status quo on religious affairs in legislation that would be immune to Supreme Court rulings. Such legislation would ensure that every time the High Court of Justice rules in favor of a human rights law over religious custom, Labor would turn that custom into a law of equal or superior status to the court ruling.

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Meretz Knesset faction chairman Ren Cohen said yesterday that, "while Meretz is in favor of preserving the status quo, the legislation Shas is demanding constitutes in itself a blatant and severe violation of the status quo. We cannot agree to that under any circumstances."

Cohen said Meretz wants Shas in the coalition, but not under these conditions. He said Shas should trust Rabin, who promised that if the status quo is violated he would see to it the situation is corrected, rather than introduce legislation.

He suggested that Shas's insistence derives from internal opposition to joining the coalition and the need to bring its voters ever increasing concessions in the religious field.

The status quo, Cohen emphasized, "is not law, but a way of life, and there will be no religious legislation in this government."

Shas MK Shlomo Benizri retorted that, "If there is no religious legisla-

tion, then there will be no coalition. We won't continue holding the government together for Meretz's benefit. Meretz is having the best of both worlds. They will get the promotion of the peace process, while we will get the ongoing erosion of religious laws by the High Court of Justice."

Benizri said Shas would not stand for that kind of situation and would go into opposition and fight with the Likud to advance the elections.

Labor sources yesterday expressed astonishment at Benizri's implication that the furthering of the peace process is only in Meretz's interest, as though it is opposed to the interest of all the people of Israel and all its political parties.

"To hear Benizri, one would think that peace in the region is directly opposed to Shas's interests, and it is sacrificing its vital goals only to please Meretz. The peace process is also in Meretz's interest, and it is renouncing nothing by supporting a government which is promoting peace," a Labor source said.



Leah Rabin, wife of the prime minister, yesterday oversees the beginning of what is to be the country's longest painting — 125 meters depicting the word peace in all its forms — at the 'Man and His World' show at the Tel Aviv Exhibition Grounds. (Israel Sun)

Boob tube hides cache of Ecstasy

RAINE MARCUS

ECSTASY turned to agony for an alleged drug smuggler yesterday. The Rishon LeZion man opened his front door to receive a TV set containing 12,300 Ecstasy pills he had shipped from Holland and was arrested by narcotics detectives on his doorstep.

The television contained what Central District police described as "a record amount" of ecstasy pills — with a street value of around NIS 1 million — intended for sale to young people at "acid parties."

The suspect, 30, who has a police record, was under surveillance for several months. The Israel Police informed its Dutch counterpart to follow him when he recently went on a trip to Holland, where he bought a TV set and shipped it to Israel.

Detectives and customs officials at Ben-Gurion Airport kept the TV shipping box under close surveillance for more than a week, until a delivery company collected it early yesterday.

Police who followed the delivery truck arrested the man when he signed for his shipment.

Central District police chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonitski said the confiscation of the pills would cause a "drought of Ecstasy" in the area.

Two other men suspected of being involved in smuggling and dealing the pills were also arrested. All three are to appear in Ramle Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing this morning.

Navy updates strategy for new vessels

ALON PINKAS

THE navy is preparing to update its battle doctrine with the addition of advanced SAAR-5 missile boats and the expected integration in 1996-97 of two German-built Dolphin class submarines, a senior navy source said yesterday.

The navy has for some years been aspiring to build a balanced and agile force capable of high-tech defensive and offensive capabilities.

The navy bases its balance on four components — surface vessels, submarines, commandos, and shore defense, both preventive and preemptive.

The additions provide a qualitative upgrading that necessitates an updating of the navy's doctrines, the senior source said.

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Uri Gordon: Time to change Law of Return

BAT-SHEVA TSUR

THE time has come for the government to seriously assess the possibility of making changes in the Law of Return, a senior Jewish Agency official said yesterday.

Uri Gordon, head of the agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, was responding to media reports that hundreds of millions of Indians considered themselves descendants of the lost tribe of Menashe and wanted to come to live in Israel.

"Israel has to decide whether to convert to Judaism millions of persons living in poverty in Third World countries who claim they are of Jewish ancestry," Gordon said.

"These are people who will do anything to reach the West. Other western countries have closed their doors to immigrants and we do the opposite. According to the Law of Return, it is sufficient to have had a Jewish grandfather in order to make aliya."

Gordon said it was imperative to set up an interministerial committee

with representatives of the Chief Rabbinate and the Jewish Agency, to examine the question of those who claimed to be Beni Menashe. He said there were 15 million so-called descendants of Menashe in India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Burma and some 40 million others who claimed Jewish roots.

So far, only a few dozen people belonging to a group called Beni Moshe had arrived from Peru, he said, and several Beni Menashe from India.

"They are not regarded as Jewish in any way by the rabbinate and have been brought here because of the personal efforts of an eccentric rabbi, Rabbi Avithayil, who arranges for their conversion."

"The government should decide whether or not it is going to sweep the issue under the carpet and let this rabbi decide on policy," Gordon declared.

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban could not be reached for comment.

Histadrut to stop budgetary pensions for elected officials

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut will stop giving budgetary pensions to its elected officials and intends to introduce retirement arrangements which will cost it much less.

A proposal is being formulated by the committee appointed by Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Ramon to examine the pension terms.

The committee also decided on retirement arrangements for hundreds of workers on Ramon's list of those to be dismissed immediately after the holidays, expected to reach 1,000 in a year and a half.

The committee decided that elected officials will no longer be eligible for budgetary pension, as they were until now, together with tens of thousands of civil servants, IDF officers, government corporation managers, judges, MKs and ministers who enjoy this privilege as part of their work agreement.

The new executive members will have a different pension agreement,

which will allot them much smaller sums. It is not clear whether they will be able to take it out before pension age.

However, incumbents who have accumulated their privileges according to the old system will not be damaged by this decision.

The committee decided that the workers who will be fired after the holidays — estimated at 400 to 600 — will receive 200% severance fees for those who worked 20 years and more. Every worker will also get another 5% severance fee for every year's work and one month's adjustment wage for every five work years.

Those who have worked more than 20 years and/or are over 57 years of age will be eligible for an early retirement program.

The Histadrut's leadership refused to comment on these proposals, noting that they are not yet fully formulated and are to be presented to the executive committee's approval on Sunday.

State must explain why officer not tried in soldier's death

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair 45 days to explain why he is not trying a former commander of the Duvdevan undercover unit for negligently causing the death of one of his soldiers.

The order, issued by Justice Dov Levine, was in response to a petition by Nissim Isha, the father of the deceased soldier.

Eli Isha was killed by members of his own unit during an attempt to capture a wanted Arab terrorist in 1992.

Although an army investigation found that the commander's negligence contributed to Isha's death, both Judge Advocate-General Ilan Schiff and Ben-Yair decided that the negligence was not severe enough to warrant criminal prosecution.

The petition argued that the negligence was in fact very severe, because of its multiplicity.

By not prosecuting the commander, the petition argued, the army shows it does not take its obligation to protect its soldiers seriously.

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Kach men, turned pimps, released on bail

RAINE MARCUS

TWO former Kach activists turned pimps were yesterday released on NIS 220,000 bail each after being arrested on suspicion of evading millions of shekels in taxes.

Brothers Assaf and Atzmon Rosenberg of Petah Tikva were detained Tuesday night by tax investigators at their "escort agency" office on Rehov Ben-Yehuda in Tel Aviv.

For the past three years, the two have run a call-girl service under names such as "Sunshine," "Sweet

Dreams," "Dream Girls," and others. Tax officials, who have been investigating the Rosenbergs for some time, suspect they owe about a million shekels in taxes, said investigator Sassi Cohen.

Investigators confiscated ledgers, credit card slips, diaries listing daily revenue, details of bank accounts in different names, and sums of cash.

The pair allegedly used fictitious

company names to obtain credit from Visa and Mastercard, and then transferred money into different bank accounts, said Cohen.

Under questioning the two admitted running a call-girl service and employing dozens of women as prostitutes, who were also questioned. Clients paid a minimum of NIS 250 for sexual services.

The brothers also admitted using

undeclared income to pay agencies to advertise their services in the local press.

Cohen said the authorities have information on other call-girl service operators in the city who fail to declare earnings amounting to millions of shekels.

The Rosenbergs' former business partners, who operate a call-girl service in another area of the city, were also arrested last night by tax officials.

Man who ran erotic phone service suspected of tax fraud

RAINE MARCUS

AN Or Yehuda man who allegedly failed to pay taxes on his erotic phone call business since 1989 was released on bail yesterday.

Shmuel Mazur, 31, is suspected of defrauding tax authorities out of hundreds of thousands of shekels from his business, which also specializes in call girl and matchmaking services. He was released on NIS 320,000 bail by Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

Mazur admitted to investigators that since 1989 he has not paid taxes on more than NIS 1 million in earnings from his company, "Kasher Phone." He also paid in cash the salaries of scores of women employed for erotic phone services.

On Monday investigators, led by

Sassi Cohen, raided his offices, seizing hundreds of index cards listing clients' names, bank account details and a computer.

Clients wanting erotic phone conversations were asked to deposit NIS 39 in one of Mazur's bank accounts. Alternatively, for NIS 100

they would be entitled to five phone calls.

Mazur also sold matchmaking pamphlets for NIS 150, which listed phone numbers of available men and women. An additional matchmaking service cost NIS 250 for 10 phone numbers.

He also paid an advertising agency in cash to avoid paying taxes, said Cohen.

18-year-old indicted for bomb attempt in Givatayim

RAINE MARCUS

THE youth who tried to throw a bomb in Givatayim two weeks ago was formally indicted by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday on counts of possession and use of explosives.

Ofar Ben-Baruch, 18, caused widespread panic in Givatayim when the bomb he said he intended to throw at his father's barbers shop exploded in his hand. Massive forces of police, Border Police and sappers cordoned off the area and searched for additional bombs, believing a terrorist was at large.

Ben-Baruch escaped to the home of his friend, Ben Levy, who helped and treated him. Later, Levy's parents, Sophia and Uri, tended to Ben-Baruch's wounds.

Uri and Ben Levy were also charged yesterday with helping a criminal to escape. Uri Levy is known to police as an underworld arbitrator who often helps to settle arguments among criminals.

Following the incident, the three fled to the north, and then surrendered to police in Tel Aviv.

Police believe that during their flight, the three coordinated their stories, and that they are concealing the real motive for the bomb. Ben-Baruch said he had planned revenge on his violent father who used to beat him. The prosecution asked for his remand until trial yesterday, but defense lawyer Nahman Belito asked for a week to study evidence.

According to the charge sheet, Ben-Baruch hid the improvised pipe bomb, which consisted of two pipes attached to a toy car and operated by remote control, under a parked van until using it later in the day.

Ben-Baruch intended to damage property with the bomb, and endangered lives in a busy street, read the charge sheet.

Water supplies boosted in Nazareth region

DAVID RUDGE

WATER supplies to Nazareth and Upper Nazareth were boosted yesterday in an effort to ease shortages there following the breakdown of a Mekorot pumping station last Wednesday.

The Water Commission announced that supplies, being diverted from alternative sources, were being increased by 250 cubic meters an hour.

Nevertheless, Mekorot called on local residents to use water sparingly and prevent any waste.

Even after the increase, supplies to the two cities and their environs would remain around 10 percent less than normal, and this situation was expected to continue until the breakdown at the main pumping station was finally repaired.

Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur yesterday received a report from the special team he appointed to investigate the disruptions in water supplies.

The head of the team, Ilan Eshel, director of the Agriculture Ministry's branch in the Afula district, said the outcrops were not as acute as had been portrayed in the media.

"The damage to those [in Upper Nazareth] was not as critical as it was presented by the acting mayor," he wrote in his report. "The main prob-

lems were on Wednesday and Friday of last week, when there were shortages for several hours in most residential areas of the city."

"At the moment, there is no critical shortage in Upper Nazareth, but there are several problems in Nazareth," according to Eshel.

He was later criticized by Nazareth municipality officials for only having found the time to inspect the situation in Upper Nazareth.

Eshel said in an Israel Radio interview that because of the time pressure he had not been able to make an on-the-spot inquiry in the Arab city.

"Eshel stressed in the report that Mekorot had made every effort to overcome the problems — caused by the breakdown of pumping equipment at a main station in the Beir Netofa Valley — but repairs were likely to take several weeks."

Tsur announced that there would be a meeting in his office next week with the participation of representatives from the Water Commission and Mekorot to examine ways of ensuring supplies of water to the two cities in case of breakdowns.

Tsur said it was also necessary to draw conclusions from what happened in the Nazareth area.

More roadside bombings in security zone

DAVID RUDGE

THE almost daily rounds of fighting in south Lebanon continued yesterday with two more Hizbullah roadside bomb attacks inside the security zone.

In one incident, an explosive device was detonated alongside a South Lebanese Army vehicle near the Hmeih village in the northern reaches of the eastern sector of the zone.

A short time later another charge was exploded near a civilian vehicle in the same area. There were no casualties in either attack.

The roadside bombings followed Hizbullah's coordinated attack on Tuesday against SLA officials and civilian workers at the Zummriya crossing point on the northern border of the zone, also in the eastern sector.

Three Lebanese civilians were killed in that attack and two other people, one of them a member of the SLA's security apparatus, were wounded.

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